

NEWS ROUNDUP

Jaguar workers seek new offer

Talks to avert a damaging strike at Jaguar remained deadlocked yesterday after more than 4,000 manual workers voted by a majority of four to one to reject the company's plans for increased productivity.

The Coventry-based company said that it would spend the weekend considering its options before resuming talks with shop stewards on Monday.

But a spokesman said: "We still require an improvement in efficiency and productivity and that means manufacturing more cars."

Union leaders said that a strike by assembly workers at the Brown's Lane plant in Coventry could still go ahead if management imposed new schedules to increase production by a target figure of 92 more cars a week.

Record car sales

New car sales reached a March record of 209,178, a 12.5 per cent rise over the same month in 1987. The increase lifted new registrations for the first quarter of 1988 to a record 584,832, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said yesterday. Foreign importers won nearly 55 per cent of the March market. The top selling cars were the Ford Escort, 14,564; Sierra, 13,843; Fiesta, 12,263; Austin/MG Metro, 12,266; Vauxhall Cavalier, 10,996; Vauxhall Astra, 10,430; Austin/MG Montego, 6,417; Vauxhall Nova, 6,182; Ford Orion, 5,459; Rover 200 Series, 5,412.

Assault case acquittal

The owner of a pool hall, Mr Valentine Walker, was cleared yesterday of a charge of assault on Mr Kuomba Balogun, the black activist. But Mr Walker, aged 36, of Robinson Road, Eastville, Bristol, was "too frightened" to attend his trial in case he was wrongly convicted. He attended the first two days of his four-day trial at Bristol Crown Court. He was accused of attacking Mr Balogun at an office in St Paul's area of Bristol. During the proceedings Mr Balogun was fined £150 for contempt after refusing to give evidence.

Sellafield go-ahead

A plan by British Nuclear Fuels Ltd to build a multi-million pound underground store for nuclear waste in Britain moved a stage nearer yesterday when Cumbria County Council was advised to allow the building of an exploratory borehole on the nuclear reprocessing complex at Sellafield. Copehead District Council, recommending the go-ahead, made it clear its approval did not imply that it was committed to the nuclear waste store.

Volvo jobs boost

Volvo Trucks is to create 100 jobs at its plant in Irvine, Strathclyde, under a £1.5 million investment plan. The Swedish company said yesterday that changes to production lines at Irvine, which currently employs 270, would allow it to handle a wider range of models and to increase capacity by more than 60 per cent, raising production to 4,500 vehicles a year. "The key to Irvine's success has been its ability to compete against other Volvo plants in Sweden and Belgium", the company said.

Suicide couple saved

An elderly couple attempting suicide yesterday made a transatlantic telephone call that saved their lives. Mr George Barber and his wife, Dorothy, of Farleigh Drive, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, left a message on their daughter's answering machine in New York before swallowing tablets. She played back the call hours later but her parents were already unconscious, so the operator connected her to Leigh police station. Officers broke into the couple's home and took them to hospital, where last night Mrs Barber was unwell and her husband was satisfactory.

Social worker moves

A social worker at the centre of Cleveland's child sexual abuse controversy is moving to a new post. Mrs Sue Richardson is leaving her job for a year to study child abuse and protection at Newcastle Polytechnic. At the six-month inquiry, Mrs Richardson, aged 40, was accused of being an ardent follower of Dr Marietta Higgs who, with Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, diagnosed 121 sexual abuse victims. Dozens of families were separated when their children were taken into care. Most later returned home.

Duchess is chancellor

The Duchess of York will be chancellor of Salford University from 1990, succeeding the Duke of Edinburgh who has held the post since the university was founded 21 years ago.

Speelman's chess lead strengthened

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Jonathan Speelman, the British world championship quarter finalist, strengthened his grip on the lead in the sixth round of the Swift world cup chess tournament in Brussels.

He won a crushing victory with the black pieces on Thursday night against the former world championship challenger Victor Korchnoi.

Speelman started his opponent by seizing the initiative at the start of the game by sacrificing two pawns to pin down the white king.

On the 21st move Speelman offered the sacrifice for the bishop to cause utter confusion in the white camp.

Leading standings after round six are: J Speelman (England) 4½pts out of six; L Ljubojevic (Yugoslavia) 4pts out of six; Alexander Belyavsky (USSR) and Mikhail Tal (USSR) both on 3½pts out of five games.

If Korchnoi had chosen to continue, Speelman would have won with a Queen sacrifice as follows: 32 Kh2 Qxh2+; 33 Rxd2 Rxd2+; 34 Kg1 Rg2+; 35 Kf1 Ne3+.

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Claimants in panic to beat Monday's deadline

By Boris Johnson

It was 11.30am when matters started to get heated. All yesterday morning, the social security office in the London borough of Peckham had been facing a rising tide of claimants attempting to press their cases before Monday's deadline for restructuring the benefit system.

The staff, behind recently installed attack-proof, plate glass screens, already had a backlog of 8,000 postal and personally delivered applications for supplementary and other special benefits from previous days, even before the door opened at 9.30.

More than 120 people filled the small, unventilated room with noise and smoke. A phalanx of pregnant women occupied the chairs, while small children ran through the legs of those who could find room to stand.

But the babbling fell silent when there was a commotion at the far end and a young woman in a park

pie hat began to pummel the glass with her fists.

"Come here", she shouted at the empty seat. "Come here now and give me some money, will you?" Desperate for attention, she took off her shoe and thumped the glass till it shook in its thick steel frame. Her voice rose to a shriek as she repeated: "Give me it. Give me my hardship payment."

At last a member of staff appeared. "Would you like to sit down, or we'll call the police", she said. With an effort the woman lifted her leg and kicked the window and at once the confined space was filled with the jangle of an alarm.

The noise galvanised the rest of the room into angry support for the claimant. "Why don't you help her now?", said a young man, joining her at the window. "You've got the power to say yes or no."

But the woman behind the counter remained calm. "Unless

this lady leaves the room, nobody else will be served", she said.

A cacophony broke out as claimants realised they might not be seen in time. Sensing that she was beaten, the woman made for the door, but turned to point at the figures behind the counter. "I'll see you in hell", she said.

The frustration at a system close to collapse was apparent on both sides of the counter. Although Peckham is in one of London's poorer boroughs, it mirrors problems throughout the country as social security offices prepare for Monday's changes and what they fear will be a flood of angry protests, mainly directed at the staff.

"It's no use hollering at them", one claimant confided as the woman made her dramatic exit. "You can't get at them because they're all hiding in the back room."

Only two or three of the eight counters were manned at any one time, and the machine on the wall

indicating which ticket number was next turned over with agonising slowness.

At 1pm, when the machine seemed to have been stuck on number 51 for 30 minutes, the tension could be felt.

Then a young mother got up in tears from the desk. After an interminable wait and 45 minutes of whispered conversation, she had been told to report to another office. The desk was immediately crowded with claimants clutching dockets.

By the afternoon the sun was shining and families had colonised large areas of Bleanheim Grove. For those without a ticket there was little chance of their making it to a counter, but there seemed to be nowhere else for them to go.

As one man left the building with his two children, he said: "I've been waiting five hours and I've had enough. It's ridiculous. They obviously haven't the staff."

Mr Samuel McGovern, aged 28, had been queuing since Thursday to secure extra benefits for his family. His neighbour remarked: "At this rate claiming benefit will be a full-time job."

Staff at the DESS office had no word of hope for the claimants. One of the staff, who refused to be named, said: "Going over to the new system of income support is putting all the staff under enormous pressure. We just can't cope. We have built up an enormous backlog."

"There are thousands of pieces of mail outstanding for Peckham alone. We don't want to open the counters early, but we've no option."

On the wall at the Peckham office were several advertisements for administrative officers. "The salary is £4,972", the posters stated. Underneath, in black ballpoint, was scrawled: "No good. Check it."

Civil Service unions protest at 'dangers' from benefit reform

By Tim Jones and Andrew Morgan

Civil Service union leaders plan to hold a national "day of action" on Monday against the introduction of the social security reforms which they claim will place their "front line members" in more danger of violent attack from the public.

The union moves were disclosed as a second leading bishop in the Church of England yesterday criticized the Government's social security reforms, which are mostly due to be introduced next week, and described them as "iniquitous" and "un-Christian".

However, the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowby, declined to endorse the comments of the Bishop of Durham, who last week described the Government as "wicked" in its policies of restructuring the benefit system.

The two main Civil Service unions involved are increasingly worried that the trend of violence towards their members will increase dramatically because of the changes, which have been criticized for causing hardship among the young, the low paid and the needy.

They say the situation can only get worse because of the plans to cut Department of Health and Social Security staffing levels by 8,000.

In spite of campaigns by

members of the Civil and Public Services Association, whose members man the counters at DHSS offices, and the National Union of Civil and Public Servants (NUCPS) to tell the public they are "carrying out policies which we fundamentally disagree", union members have been subject to violence.

Although staff at DHSS offices and job centres are protected by security screens and reinforced doors, some

work or attacked near their homes.

Last night, the NUCPS said: "The changes mean that our members will have to decide whether a pensioner should have a new roof or a cooker. It places our members in an intolerable position."

The unions claim the introduction of the Social Fund, under which one-off grants to meet claimants' special needs will be replaced with loans, will lead to more tension.

Mr Barry Reamsbottom, spokesman for the CPSA, said: "A situation which has increasingly been getting worse is now in danger of becoming appalling."

On Monday, union leaders will join claimants queuing outside the Eleanorbury DHSS office in London and staff will hold one-hour protest meetings outside the DHSS headquarters at Richmond House.

Bishop Bowby, chairman of the social policy committee of the Church of England's Board of Social Responsibility, who was speaking at a press conference organized by the Child Poverty Action Group, said that increased wealth of the majority would not mean reduced poverty for the few.

He added: "The rich are getting richer and the poor poorer. The new Social Fund,

disgruntled customers have even produced guns when told they cannot be given any benefits.

At least two union members on home visits to assess benefit claims have been murdered. In other offices, staff have been threatened with knives after telling claimants that the rules forbade them from being assisted.

Offices have been petrol-bombed while some clients, "desperate for subsistence money", have used scaffolding to breach the security of buildings.

Some members of staff, after rejecting a claim, have been assaulted as they left

work or attacked near their homes.

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The Bishop of Southwark and Miss Fran Bennett yesterday (Photograph: Bryn Collins)

coming on top of the recent Budget, is a glaring example of the process at work. Do we really want to return to a world where the rich and the powerful hide in their offices and cars?"

The bishop said he had recently witnessed symptoms of an increasingly divided community in New York. The cost here from "unrest" in the cities would outweigh the attempted savings on the new system.

However, he said: "The trouble about the word

"wicked" is that it sounds like a moral sweeping condemnation of everybody concerned with government. I don't think these changes could be described as wicked because, in the most part, I don't think their effects were deliberate."

"If these things were intended, then it will be very serious as some are going to be very hurtful. If they were unintended, then it was a careless piece of legislative initiative."

The bishop defended the position of clerics commenting on political issues, saying

church leaders had always commented on human need. "We have to be careful about comments on the detailed policies of particular parties but we have the right to comment about the consequences of those policies," he said.

Miss Fran Bennett, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, conceded that there were some structural improvements in the system but she believed they had been marred by the over-riding requirement of limiting the resources available.

Maxwell quits trade body

By Richard Evans

Mr Robert Maxwell is resigning from the Publishers' Association - for the second time - weeks after his legal battle over the publication of two of his biographies.

Mr Maxwell's son, Kevin, chief executive of the newly named Maxwell Pergamon Publishing Corporation, said in a letter to the trade body that the company would not be renewing its subscription because the association was not providing "value for money".

However, a spokesman for Mr Maxwell said yesterday that the company would go ahead with the £25,000 sponsorship of a concert at the Festival Hall.

The concert is one of the main social events during the one-week twenty-third congress of the International Publishers' Association which is being staged in Britain for the first time since 1936.

Mr Maxwell's publishing group agreed several months ago to sponsor the concert and a considerable part of the money had been paid over, the spokesman said.

It is understood, however, that the organizers are looking for alternative sponsors.

US congressman meets Haughey in Dublin Kennedy condemns 'occupying force'

By John Cooney and Sheila Ginn

Mr Joseph Kennedy, the US congressman, yesterday condemned the British military in Northern Ireland as "the occupying forces".

He made his comments outside the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin after being the guest of Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, at a lunch. In reply to a question asking whether he had been harassed by the security forces while visiting Northern Ireland, Mr Kennedy said: "I was harassed a lot less than the people in Northern Ireland."

His views were clearly influenced by his acrimonious exchanges with the security forces in West Belfast and Londonderry earlier this week and by his

observation of the heavy military presence.

Mr Kennedy's use of the language of Irish republicanism was seen as confirming the suspicions of Ulster Unionists that his four-day fact-finding visit was loaded in favour of the nationalist case for a united Ireland.

Mr Haughey avoided any involvement in the anti-British commentary, but told reporters that a "Kennedy is always welcomed in Ireland".

Mr Kennedy's reference to the "occupying forces" came when he spoke of his meeting in South Armagh yesterday with Cardinal Tomás O'Fiaich, the Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland. He said the prelate was somebody who recognized "the intransigence

of the British position and the tremendous presence of the occupying forces within his own county."

He said that the Irish and American governments should use their combined influence to put pressure on the British government to change the system of justice in Northern Ireland and to end job discrimination against Roman Catholics.

In London, Mr Tony Benn, the challenger for the Labour leadership, defied official party policy by accepting an invitation to share a platform with members of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA. Mr Benn is expected to use the meeting at Hammersmith Town Hall, west London, next Thursday to call for the removal of Northern Ireland from British jurisdiction.

Tories and Labour in poll tax tussle

By Sheila Ginn

The dispute over the Government's proposed poll tax took a new and bitter twist last night as allegations of "lies" and "blackmail" flew between the Conservative and Labour camps.

As Mr Roy Hattersley was unveiling details of Labour's alternative to the rating system, Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chairman, described Labour's latest attack on the poll tax as "an outright lie".

With local council elections less than a month away Mr John Prescott, Mr Hattersley's challenger for the deputy leadership, also condemned the "deep sense of injustice" provoked by the poll tax.

Speaking in Spennymoor, Co Durham, last night Mr Hattersley spelt out the new party policy for replacing rates with a mixture of property tax and local income tax. Business rates must be levied as a local tax with regular revaluations, he said.

Mr Hattersley described the

poll tax as "morally indefensible" because it made the poor pay more and the rich pay less.

Mr Brooke, speaking in Helmsley, Yorkshire, countered by stating that the national appeal of the poll tax had "begun to panic Labour".

"Their latest tactic is the outright lie. Their leaflets pile falsehood upon falsehood - that the community charge will restrict the right to vote, that our housing reforms will reduce the security of council tenants, and so on."

"These sort of lies are the actions of desperate men."

Mr Hattersley blamed the unpopularity of rates on cuts in government grants.

Mr Neil Kinnock is expected to reject advice that he tighten after an attack on his home in Ealing, west London.

Although his aides refused to comment on the detailed arrangements, it is known that the Labour leader and his wife, Glenys are reluctant to lose their privacy by allowing around-the-hour surveillance

Bodies of Alps boys are home

By Rosemary Unsworth

The bodies of the four Berishire boys who fell to their deaths on a mountainside during a school skiing trip in the Austrian Alps were returned to Britain yesterday.

Their coffins were packed inside a crate in the cargo hold of an Austrian Airways aircraft.

Flight 461 from Southburg touched down at Heathrow at lunchtime, where the coffins remained until receiving customs clearance and being released for the return to Maidenhead, the boys' home town.

Prayers will be said for Lee Powell, aged 15, Andrew Watts, aged 14, Daniel Howton, aged 14, and Michael Taylor, aged 13, at All Saints Church, Boyn Hill Road, Maidenhead, tomorrow.

The boys, who fell 300 ft to their deaths on the Untersberg, were among a party of 41 children from All Saints Church of England comprehensive school, Maidenhead.

They had been on a skiing holiday in the Alps when the tragedy occurred.

There are hundreds of types of avalanche - which can occur in any food as it is broken through fibres or urine - a fact which varies in intensity. It is only dangerous in the old, very young

Earnings data 'out of date'

By Roland Radd

The Department of Employment may be underestimating the rate of growth in average earnings by using outdated employment data, according to a report by the independent pay research group.

It says in a report out yesterday that government figures have, by relying on employment data for 1981, failed to keep pace with significant changes in employment in the past seven years.

A rapid rise in service sector employment, coupled with an increase in earnings growth is not taken into account in the whole economy index, while the booming finance sector is under-represented, it says.

The group has calculated that the department's economy and service indices may be too low. The economy

index figure for December 1987 at 210.3 could be 1 per cent too low, and the recorded increase over the year at 8.7 per cent could be 2.5 per cent too low.

In the service sector, the earnings index over the same period, at 209.8, could be 1.5 per cent too low, and the annual increase at 9.2 per cent could be 2.5 per cent too low.

Each month the department samples 7,500 companies and employers to ascertain the total wage bill. The base is the 1981 census of employment figures.

Manufacturing, which accounted for just over 30 per cent of employees, has declined to 25 per cent, while the banking and finance sector, which accounted for only 4.4 per cent in 1981, more than doubled to almost 11 per cent.

In June 1981, the finance sector accounted for 8 per cent of all employees. By taking information only from insurance companies, brokers, banks, building societies and finance houses, the department's figures under-represented the actual amount, the report says.

The department's average earnings index was also biased towards large employers.

The department is planning to re-base the average earnings indices soon, using the 1984 census of employment.

The department plans to increase the survey coverage beyond the 7,500 establishments.

IDS report 518, (Income-Data Services Ltd, 193 St John Street, London EC1V 4LS, by subscription).

Anger at lost satellite deal

By Sheila Ginn and Robert Matthews

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Trade and Industry Minister, was accused of incompetence last night for his failure to meet the deadline for deciding whether Britain will take a stake in the Canadian satellite project.

Mr Clarke, who is responsible for space policy, and Lord Young of Grafton, Trade and Industry Secretary, will be asked to give a full explanation to Parliament next week.

Mr Bryan Gould, the shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said he will ask Mr Clarke why he ignored the deadline of March 31, set by the Canadians.

"It looks like incompetence if they like Mr Clarke and Lord Young" believed they had more time", Mr Gould added. As reported in The Times

yesterday the Canadians have been waiting since last June for Britain's decision on whether to collaborate on launching an Earth observation satellite Radarsat, which promises valuable contracts for British firms and, therefore, jobs.

Since the deadline had been passed with no answer they said they will look at alternative sources of help outside Britain and will probably buy a satellite "off-the-shelf" in the United States.

Ministers still believe that if they opt for the Canadian project within the next week their bid will be accepted.

Lord Shackleton, a former leader of the Lords, has accused Lord Young of "misleading" Parliament by telling peers the Government would

reply to the Canadians "in good time".

A DTI spokesman said: "To talk about one being ruled out is premature. An announcement will be made in due course."

A Russian cosmonaut yesterday expressed his sadness at the reluctance of British industry to sponsor six brilliant students to become the first undergraduates at the International Space University this summer.

Alexander Volkov, who in 1985 took part in the first emergency medical evacuation of a spacecraft when his commander fell ill aboard Salyut 7, met with the six hopefuls in London yesterday.

With no direct Government support, only three of the six can be certain to attend.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Howe calls for West Bank talks

Singapore (Reuters) — Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said here yesterday that violence in the Israeli-occupied territories demonstrated the urgency for an international conference to solve the issue peacefully.

● JERUSALEM: Angry Israeli settlers dismissed an Army report on Wednesday's confrontation between settler school children and West Bank villagers as "a deliberate attempt to distort what really happened" (David Bernstein writes). The Army said the villagers had made no attempt to massacre the settlers. Mr Benny Katzover, a settler leader, told *The Times* the report was "a pack of lies." Someone wanted to head off drastic action demanded by the settlers and Israeli leaders, including the Justice Minister, Mr Avraham Shari.

Iranians elect Majlis

Tehran (AP) — Iranians voted for a new parliament yesterday within hours of Iraqi missile attacks on cities, in an election that could help to determine the course of the country's Islamic revolution. The third election of the 270-member Majlis since the 1979 revolution is seen as a contest between the supporters of an Islamic-style capitalism and the radicals who favour a socialist-style economy. Ayatollah Khomeini, aged 87, who was shown on television voting near his home, has recently favoured the radicals. About 1,400 candidates, approved by provincial and city governments, were standing — about 400 more than in the last election in 1984. For the first time there were about 30 women candidates.

Talks on Lebanon

West Beirut — President Gemayel of Lebanon yesterday flew to Cyprus for an unexpected meeting with the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz (Juan Carlos Gumucio writes). The one-hour meeting at Larnaca airport underlined Washington's efforts to break the political deadlock that threatens the scheduled Lebanese presidential elections.

Mr Shultz, who met President Assad of Syria early this week as part of his latest peace tour of the region, is acting as mediator between Damascus and Mr Gemayel. It is almost certain Mr Shultz formally endorsed Syrian proposals for constitutional reforms during his talks with the Lebanese president, whose refusal to accept them two years ago paralyzed the Government and deepened the crisis.

Police take on gangs

Los Angeles — A task force of 1,000 extra police will fan out through Los Angeles this weekend to try to curb escalating gang warfare and bloodshed which, according to one city councillor, is now worse than the violence in Beirut (Ivor Davis writes). Last month Los Angeles earned the dubious distinction of being labelled America's gang capital, where about 600 gangs and their 70,000 members are involved in frequent shootouts and killings. Last weekend two suspected gang members fired more than 20 shots into a crowd, killing a 19-year-old woman bystander and wounding eight others.

Los Angeles city council has approved spending an extra \$2.45 million (£1.31 million) to strengthen the beleaguered police force as gang-related deaths mount daily.

Elephant check row

Valence, France — Mr William Travers, head of the British animal welfare group Zoo Check, flew to the South of France yesterday to investigate the living conditions of the two elephants accompanying Ian Botham on his march across the Alps in Hannibal's footsteps (Alan Franks writes). There was an angry exchange between Mr Travers and the project coordinator, Mr Mervyn Edgecombe, when Mr William Jordan, a vet travelling with Mr Travers, began to take photographs of the elephants as they were entering their van. Two 24-hour hotlines have been set up so that people can pledge money for leukaemia research on their credit cards, or be given the address to which to send cheques and postal orders. The numbers are 405 0101 and 831 8884.

Reagan ex-aide jailed



Washington — Lyn Nofziger, left, President Reagan's former White House political director, was sentenced to 90 days' imprisonment yesterday and fined \$30,000 (£16,000) for illegally lobbying administration officials after leaving the White House (Christopher Thomas writes).

He was convicted on three counts of contacting former colleagues on behalf of private clients within a year of leaving President Reagan's staff, but remains free pending an appeal. He was also given two years' probation.

Nixon expresses unease over Bush candidacy

From Charles Bremner
New York

As the Democratic contenders slugged it out on New York's ethnic battlefields yesterday, Vice-President George Bush, the Republicans' serene crown prince, was jolted by some cutting home truths from Mr Richard Nixon, who knows something about the rough side of politics.

"The prospect of George Bush as President seems to make everyone ill at ease, nervous," he said in the most direct public comment so far on the man whom he once appointed ambassador to the United Nations.

"What this country needs is a man like John Connally, mean and tough, who could go eye-to-eye with Mikhail Gorbachev and who could handle our economic problems," Mr Connally is the former Texas Governor who served as Mr Nixon's Treasury Secretary and has gone bankrupt recently. Mr Nixon added that Mr Bush lacked the independence and drive to lead a country whose global leadership is increasingly questioned.

As president, Mr Bush would be trapped by the establishment and Washington bureaucracy, he added.

Mr Nixon offered his views in a remarkably prescient interview with the *Wall Street Journal* before the Iowa caucuses in February but held by agreement until yesterday when it was released to coincide with publication of his book, 1999: *Victory Without War*.

Now aged 75, and still one of the country's shrewdest political minds, Mr Nixon accurately predicted the course of the race so far. Senator Robert Dole was "selfish and mean enough," but those qualities would count him the nomination, he said. The Democrats would be deadlocked and would pick a candidate through negotiation.

In the thick of the New York campaign, Governor Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, the self-styled "inevitable candidate," received a twin boost from a string of local Democratic leaders and from

an opinion poll giving him a clear lead over the Rev Jesse Jackson, by 47 to 31 per cent.

But the one blessing that Mr Dukakis has been all but pleading for — that of Governor Mario Cuomo — was still missing. Mr Cuomo sowed further confusion about his intentions when he sent word from his Olympus-like throne in Albany to a gathering of Democrats at a Manhattan hotel.

Mr Laurence Kirwan, the party's state chairman and Mr Cuomo's messenger, said: "The Governor now feels that there are three candidates in this race and 'I want you to pick one of the three.'" Yesterday, the local heavyweights, including party leaders in Brooklyn and Queens, began moving behind Mr Dukakis while he was celebrating Orthodox Easter with his fellow Greek-Americans.

The third man, Senator Albert Gore of Tennessee, came in for a fresh dressing-down from the Governor for his continuing offensive

against Mr Jackson, a tactic aimed at wooing the Jewish vote which accounts for 25 per cent of the Democratic turnout.

"It's a sign of political weakness to attack," Mr Cuomo said. "I'm saying to Senator Gore: 'Tell them about you. Let them understand how positive a force you are.'"

Mr David Garth, the local media genius who is now running Mr Gore's do-or-die New York campaign, hit back at the Governor, who also happens to be a close friend. It was ludicrous for Mr Cuomo to "come down from the mountain-top to give Gore a little kick in the head," Mr Gore, aged 40, who has about 9 per cent support, is spending \$1 million (£536,000) on commercials projecting himself, among other things, as a combat-jacketed Vietnam veteran who has "dealt with the Russians." Mr Gore served on an army newspaper while in Vietnam. He has been throwing his weight behind Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, and his

rejection of the US peace initiative, much to the delight of Mayor Edward Koch. The Mayor, the Charybdis to Mr Cuomo's Scylla for the out-of-town campaigners, has been busy telling New York Jews that voting for Mr Jackson would be like being a black and backing apartheid.

But not all Jews are happy at Mr Koch's self-appointed championship. Mr Barry Feinstein, president of the powerful and notorious local Teamsters' Union, said he was backing the black candidate "and I am as Jewish as any Jew who ever lived." Of Mr Koch he said: "I resent his taking a dagger and attempting to stick it into the heart of this city."

On his side, the newly-ecumenical Mr Jackson has been surveying the racial fray with regal composure. "Let us keep this campaign above any form of racial or religious bigotry or anything that incites such a reaction," he said in response to questions about Mr Koch.

Hot gossip, page 8

US prepares to take in defeated Contras

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Reagan Administration is drawing up contingency plans for resettling 30,000 to 50,000 Nicaraguan Contras and their families, some of whom would be allowed to live in the US.

The move is an acknowledgement that the seven-year guerrilla war has almost certainly been lost and that the Democrat-controlled Congress is unlikely to grant further military aid, even if peace talks between the Contras and the Sandinistas collapse.

An Administration official said that "the Contra war is over" and that "perhaps the last service I will perform for the Contras will be to hand out green (immigration) cards".

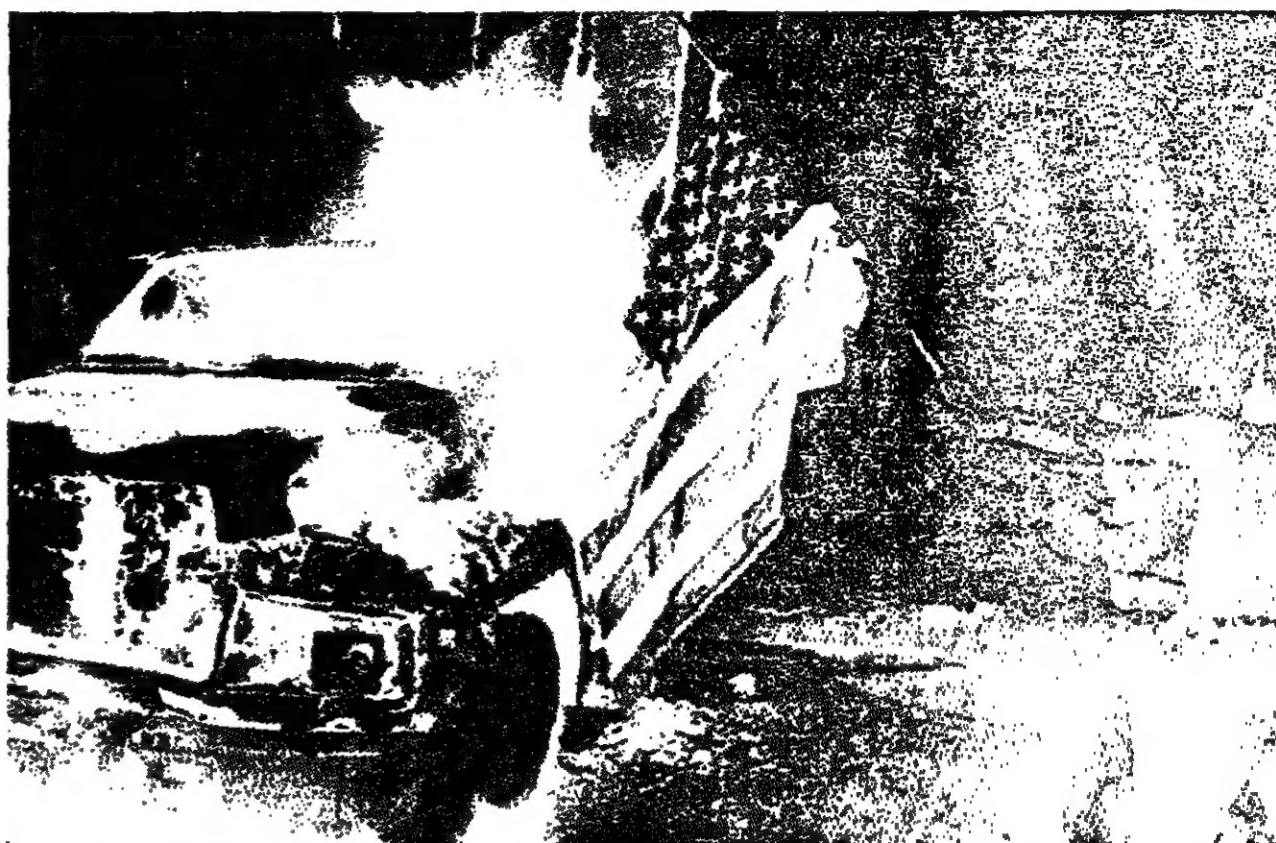
He added that Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, believed that "anyone who wants to come to the US should be allowed to come in. I don't think that will be more than about 5,000." He thought that some would choose to go to Honduras or Costa Rica, with others preferring to return home under an amnesty.

The Administration was astonished that the Contras accepted the terms of the ceasefire agreement they signed with the Sandinistas last month. Senior officials are now particularly critical of the amnesty provisions, which they said were not even as good as those offered in previous peace talks.

Some officials still see a faint possibility that Congress will give military aid if the Sandinistas mount another offensive against the Contras. The rebels were driven out of northern Nicaragua last month and are now in their base camps inside Honduras, awaiting developments.

Contra officials in the US insisted that they still had sufficient resources to restart the war if the peace talks failed, but acknowledged that supplies would be exhausted in a matter of weeks or months without US support.

In an election year there is clearly no possibility that the Administration would send troops to aid the Contras in the event of another Nicaraguan offensive across the border into Honduras.



Honduran students setting a US flag alight on a burning car during an attack on the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa.

Four die in drug arrest protest

From Martha Honey, San José

At least four Hondurans were killed and several injured when more than 1,000 rock-throwing students attacked the US Embassy in Tegucigalpa in protest at the handing over to the United States of a reputed drug trafficker.

The demonstrators, mainly university and high school students, broke windows and set fire to the US Embassy annex, burned several dozen cars in the embassy compound, and entered and began looting the building's ground floor, according to local press reports and people contacted in Tegucigalpa.

The crowd, shouting "gringos out of Honduras", marched from the university to the embassy on Thursday evening to protest at the US-engineered arrest and deportation of Ramón Matta Ballesteros, whom Hondurans view as a sort of Robin Hood figure.

Witnesses say the crowd began to disperse when shots were fired from within the embassy compound, apparently by Honduran security guards. The US Embassy spokesman, Mr Michael O'Brien, said that the embassy was defended by US Marines and Honduran guards but that "absolutely no weapons were fired from either inside the embassy building or from the embassy annex building".

Mr O'Brien said US officials would hold "immediate consultations with the Honduran authorities" to determine why it took more than an hour for 100 riot police to arrive on the scene.

The embassy attack was sparked by the seizure and

extradition to the US on Tuesday of Matta, a reputed leading Colombian cocaine trafficker whom US authorities suspect was involved in the 1985 murder of a US Drug Enforcement Agency agent. Honduras has no extradition treaty with the US and the Honduran legislative assembly and press has vigorously denounced his forced seizure and deportation by DEA and Honduran officials.

Matta had bribed his way out of a Colombian jail in 1986 and escaped to Honduras, the second poorest country in the Western hemisphere. He took out Honduran citizenship and became popular for his charitable works, including donations of school desks and medicines to the poor.

Mr Meese said that members of the Colombian Government had expressed their satisfaction to him over the capture earlier this week of Matta.

However, at a press conference at the end of his five-hour visit to Bogota Mr Meese seemed tacitly to recognize that, for the time being at least, it is highly unlikely that extradition will be revived between the US and the country at the centre of the international cocaine business.

Haunting images for Afghan pull-out

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

As the Soviet Army enthusiastically prepares to begin its pull-out from Afghanistan next month, two images will be uppermost in the minds of its commanders and their Kremlin masters about scenarios which must, if at all possible, be avoided.

One is the unedifying spectacle of the American helicopters leaving Saigon in 1975 with panicky South Vietnamese personnel clinging to the sides desperately in search of sanctuary; the other is the costly and undignified retreat which the Israelis were forced to make southwards from Beirut, harried by local resistance fighters.

The extent to which the withdrawal will be well ordered and relatively painless depends to a large extent on the details of the so far secret agreement between Moscow and Washington about the continuing provision of aid from either side to the Muslim rebels and the Kabul regime, one Western military expert explained.

"The greater the 'positive symmetry' that is allowed for, the greater will be the capability of the guerrillas to hit at the retreating Soviet soldiers. My hunch would be that the Mujahidin will save their effort until nearly the end, as they may not want to risk holding up the Soviet departure in its early stages."

Western diplomats based in Kabul believe that the main Soviet exit route, the road north from Kabul through the spectacular Salang Pass, is fairly defensible and should not present the Soviet forces with insurmountable difficulties, despite the guerrillas' threat to continue fighting during the nine months of the pull-out.

Similarly, the Afghan cap-

ital itself has seen its defences boosted in recent months in preparation for the retreat and as a move to strengthen the regime of President Najibullah against attacks which are widely expected to follow the first Soviet departure as the rebels try and force his overthrow. Much will depend on the loyalty of his 45,000 strong, mainly conscript Army, down to nearly half of its 1979 strength.

Although most diplomats still fear that a bloodbath will ensue in the vacuum left by the Soviet withdrawal — especially if the US is able to maintain a high level of arms supplies to the rebels under the Geneva accords to be signed next week — there is a growing recognition that the Najibullah Government may have greater resistance than predicted a few months ago. The unknown factor remains the depth of the factional differences inside it.

"There is no doubt that the Soviet side intends leaving

them vast amounts in the way of armour and material," another Western observer said yesterday. "This could enable them at least to hold power in the capital and to try and capitalize on the wide differences which also exist inside the seven-strong rebel alliance."

It is known that the Kremlin, although anxious to dismiss any attempts to draw a comparison between its departure and the US retreat from Vietnam, has contingency plans designed to assist its closest allies inside Afghanistan to escape in the face of a collapse of the pro-Moscow regime there.

Western diplomats have seen copies of special cards which have been distributed permitting certain selected members of the Najibullah Government access to Soviet-controlled exit points in Kabul in case of what is described loosely as "an emergency."

According to unofficial Western estimates, some

3,000 of these cards have been distributed, but it is not clear under what conditions they could be used. Among those understood to be included in the blueprint for transfer of personnel to the Soviet Union are all those Afghans who have married Soviet citizens since the Soviet Army's intervention in December 1979.

"At almost any cost, the Soviet Union will be willing to avoid a repetition of the scenes which took place around the US Embassy in Saigon. Under the circumstances given the strength of Kabul's defences, they may succeed," a Western diplomat said. "There are similarities between the two wars, but they are by no means parallel."

Although the Afghan watchers differ in their predictions about how smoothly the withdrawal can be accomplished, they are united in their view that the guerrillas will refuse to accept any government led by President Najibullah.

The President, who has

Four points of the accord

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The agreements in the Geneva peace accord on Afghanistan, to be signed next week and not later than Thursday — the US preference — are in this order:

● A bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on principles of mutual relations, in particular non-interference and non-intervention.

● A bilateral agreement between the two countries on the voluntary return home of Afghan refugees (3.2 million in Pakistan, 2.1 million in Iran).

● A declaration of international guarantees (guar-

antors of the agreements being the US and the Soviet Union).

● An agreement on the inter-relationship of those three articles in the implementation of a settlement "of the situation relating to Afghanistan".

declining to divulge details of the four instruments in advance, he said the document on procedures for forming a broad-based government was "very explicit".

Likewise, the memorandum attached to the fourth article set out in considerable detail the role that UN monitors would be required to fulfil.

He was explicit when asked whether the four instruments included any references to "positive symmetry" in military supplies from the Soviet Union and the US. "There is no such reference in any document," he said.

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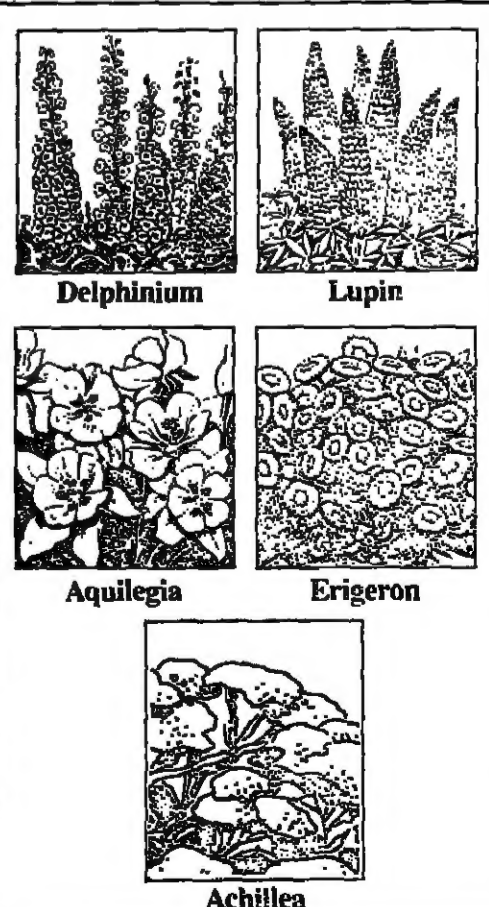
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Her may win from stings

Science Editor

to make its lethal sting

So far, the scientists have only been allowed to observe the genetically engineered virus in a small cage. The persistence of the virus in the environment is not known. Eventually, they will use the genetically engineered microbe, which is called baculovirus, to infect the pine beauty moth caterpillars. Such microbes do not infect humans or other animals.

The Oxford group hit on the idea of spraying the leaves of crops with baculovirus. When caterpillars eat the leaves, they ingest the virus. For safety, the virus was altered so that they will eventually destroy themselves and not persist in the environment.

The cabbage-pest released established the principle of a virus-based insecticide that destroys itself after doing its job. The next stage is to develop a more rapidly acting organism.

Viruses may take several days or weeks to kill an insect, during which time it may damage the crop. However, insecticides may act more quickly but they can also be beneficial insects.

Hence, the plan is to spin into a baculovirus the gene from the scorpion which controls the production of the toxin that forms the sting to the tail.

Ion dealer best China

SALEROOM
By Huon Mallalieu

£21,551 for a view of the Palazzo Ducale in Venice, as catalogued by Giacomo Guardi. There was some confusion here, as the catalogue gave Giacomo's dates of the better known Francesco Guardi.

In Edinburgh yesterday, Phillips sale included a pair of four small China tea views of Macau, which are from a collection of the Earl of Minto. Mr Gregory said he secured these since they were for about twice what he expected, selling for £115 (estimate £100-£200).

The most expensive sale at £42,000, was also something of a surprise, not for the owner, a doctor for Sterling who had thought a print. In fact his view of Utrecht under snow was a painting by Jan Hendrick Verheyden, and it was bought by a Dutch dealer for a strong competition.

Another doctor, from the Lev, also did well with "Listen with Mother" by currently popular Denis Sharp, which made £25 (estimate £15,000 to £20,000).

t car park up by 74%

Air Correspondent

use of the long-term car park which is cheaper and is signed to free the short-term car park for those who stay for less than two hours.

Long-term parks — at there are 4,500 spaces compared with 4,000 in the first day and 4,000 in the second day. A year's charges at £2 a day and £2.50 for subsequent days.

"If you want to park by couple of hours it is a lot cheaper at Heathrow," says the airport spokesman. "The airport is a very busy place and the short-term parking is for less than two hours and providing a good parking service."

Mr Murray, who is a former member of the House of Commons, said he "needed to have a car in the terminal and the car creates an image of people who are not the price for the service."

a festival

Andrew Billen

Sir Frederick Ashton's patron of the festival was the "theatrical personality" I have ever seen — a member of the festival committee, said he had inspired several other people to dance.

Devotees of Pavane meet each January a memorial service at London's Royal Orthodox Cathedral.

Exhibitions at the Royal will include Pavane in the land and The Dances of English Ballet.

Maxwell likely to face veto over bid

during

Pretoria, and set up a programme of EEC aid to "the victims of apartheid". But Zambia and other frontline states argue that this does not go far enough.

TONIGHT AT 8.00pm.



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Thatcher promises to help free EEC aid for Turkey

From Robin Oakley, Istanbul

Mrs Thatcher promised Turkey yesterday that she would help to unlock £375 million of EEC funds to assist the country's economic programme.

The funds, due under the so-called Fourth Protocol of Turkey's association agreement with the EEC, have been blocked at Greek instigation by the European Parliament. But relations between Greece and Turkey are thawing and Mrs Thatcher promised yesterday: "We are not blocking the fourth protocol. We would like it to come into effect. We shall do our best to get it unblocked."

Mrs Thatcher added that the release of the funds would be an appropriate "earnest of good intent" from the EEC in relation to Turkey's application for full membership, which is now being assessed.

The British gesture was seen as a *quid pro quo* for private assurances from Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, that bids by British consortia for a number of infrastructure projects will be received in a favourable light.

Later at a lunch in Istanbul given by the city's Mayor, Mr Sedrettin Dalgic, Mrs Thatcher said that more could be done to make Turkey's association agreement with the EEC work better. "I promise you that Britain will be looking very closely at ways to achieve this, starting with this month's meeting of the Association Council in Brussels."

But Mrs Thatcher warned the Turks not to be in too much of a hurry over their

EEC application. She said that the European Commission was preparing its opinion on the application in the normal way. "It is bound to take time. The issues are complex and it is not in either side's interests to rush consideration of them," she said.

In an airport press conference in Ankara Mrs Thatcher lavished praise on Mr Ozal's management of the Turkish economy, which she said he had "transformed".

Although she said it was for all 12 EEC countries to decide on Turkey's eventual entry to the community, she said that Mr Ozal's stimulation of the Turkish economy "will be a great help".

Mr Ozal forecast that Turkey would be ready for entry to the EEC much sooner than anyone had expected.

On the thorny question of human rights in Turkey, which could cause complications with the application, Mrs Thatcher said she had discussed the question with Mr Ozal in the past. In a surprising tribute she said: "He is doing everything he possibly can to see full human rights are enjoyed in Turkey."

On the Middle East, Mrs Thatcher said that she wished Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, well with his initiative, but "it won't be solved until the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people are negotiated and met".

On Cyprus, she said that she and Mr Ozal both wanted to see a unified state with a

federal constitution, but the first stage was for the Greek Cypriot and Turkish communities on the island to talk directly to each other under UN auspices. It was not for Britain to bring about a new initiative.

● **ATHENS:** Greece has flatly rejected a proposal by Turkey for a meeting between Mr Ozal and Mr Andreas Papanastasiou, the Greek Prime Minister, with Mr George Vassiliou, the newly-elected Cypriot President, and Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, to discuss the future of Cyprus (Mario Modiano writes).

"The Cyprus problem is not a Greek-Turkish issue," an official statement said. "Greece is not prepared to participate in any procedure that would imply recognition of Mr Denktas's sham state."

The proposal for a quadri-lateral summit on Cyprus was made by Mr Ozal during Mrs Thatcher's visit to Turkey. It appeared to be an alternative to President Vassiliou's request for a meeting with the Turkish Prime Minister, which Mr Ozal has so far spurned.

The Cypriot President was in London last week to put to Mrs Thatcher his argument in favour of his meeting with Mr Ozal rather than with Mr Denktas who, in his view, was not qualified to answer questions about the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from northern Cyprus, nor the nature of international guarantees demanded by Cyprus.

Mr Ozal made his offer

Order of Malta gathers in Rome



Members of the Catholic order, the Knights of Malta, beginning their conclave yesterday to choose a new Grand Master.

Knights to elect Grand Master

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Hooded in black, 36 successors to the Crusaders yesterday met in conclave to elect the new Grand Master of the Order of Malta, a wealthy, influential charity that has the trappings of a sovereign state.

The 36 knights are the leaders of the 12,000-strong Sovereign Military Order. Some in monastic dress, others in civilian suits, the electors celebrated Mass yesterday and then filed into the first-floor council room of the order's sprawling Villa Magistrale in Rome to vote for the successor of Grand Master

Angelo de Mojana di Cologna, who died in January.

It is the first such election since 1962 and the Grand Council Room has not been opened in 25 years. Yesterday, around a table decked with a scarlet tablecloth and the Maltese cross, gathered such figures as a Brazilian industrialist, descendants of the Prussian and French monarchies and an English school teacher, Mr Andrew Bertie.

Mr Bertie, a Professed Knight—that is a knight who has taken monastic vows—is one of the 22 possible

contenders for Grand Master. The betting, however, is on a Czech and three Italians. The eventual winner will be announced after approval by the Pope.

The membership of the order is still mainly aristocratic. But the need to operate an ambitious international charity programme—the order has 200 hospitals in about 90 countries—has led to a democratization within the order, bringing in wealthy non-aristocrats.

The knights trace their origins to the 11th century when

a French monk established a hospice for sick pilgrims to the Holy Land.

The order has characteristics of a sovereign state—its own passports, embassies (in 50 countries), coinage, stamps and number plates on cars. In recent years a number of false Maltese Orders have sprung up and have tried to sell essentially meaningless titles and passports. One of the first tasks of the new Grand Master will be to consult the special orders committee to decide on how to defend the knights from these pretenders.

Ankara modernizes

Waving flag for British firms

From Robin Oakley, Political Editor, Istanbul

Was Mrs Thatcher's journey to Turkey strictly necessary? It did not offer her dividends like the Moscow trip in the world spotlight, or even the January journey to Kenya and Nigeria, a useful defensive gambit to save her being accused at the next Commonwealth conference of lacking interest in Africa.

But leaving aside the need to keep the Prime Minister's restless energies engaged in the Easter recess there were two explanations. The first was the chasing of contracts as Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, continues the modernization of his country.

His switch from an agricultural economy to an indus-

trial one to prepare Turkey as a candidate for EEC membership offers opportunities to British firms, and the days when only French leaders toured abroad with order book in hand have gone. There was nothing coy about the way Mrs Thatcher waved flags for British firms.

But these days Mrs Thatcher has another export which she is interested in plugging: Thatcherism itself. When Mr Ozal visited London in 1986 she described herself as an Ozalite. What she meant was that he is an unreconstructed Thatcherite now putting his people through the austerity which she imposed in 1981 with Sir Geoffrey Howe. With Turkey and Britain the two fastest growing economies in Europe, the itch to see pure Thatcherism at work elsewhere was too much to resist.

Then there was Cyprus—where both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Ozal are taking refuge in the formula that it is for the island communities led by President Vassiliou and Mr Rauf Denktas to meet under UN auspices before there is any case for the involvement of Turkey and Britain as guarantor powers. Mrs Thatcher steered clear of pressing Mr Ozal to withdraw more of the 29,000 Turkish troops in northern Cyprus.

On Nato, Mrs Thatcher seems to have made little progress in pushing the Turks into greater military modernization and a willingness to accept more short-range nuclear weapon-launchers in the post-INF agreement world.

But above all, there was the EEC. The Turks are keen to win entry. Most EEC governments, still struggling with accommodating Spain and Portugal, are alarmed at the prospect of embracing a still-

poor nation with a fast-growing population. The population is growing so quickly that if Turkey entered today, one in three EEC citizens would be Turks by the next century.

As a long-time friend, Britain is in a special position, especially as a result of Mrs Thatcher's visit.

To win goodwill and bolster the hopes of contractors for Britain, Mrs Thatcher made encouraging noises about the Turkish application to join the EEC, emphasizing Turkey's existing links with Nato and the Council of Europe.

She endorsed the claim of Kemal Ataturk, father of modern Turkey, that "for centuries the Turks have walked from the East in the direction of the West".

So they have. Though 98 per cent Muslim, Turkey is a secular and democratic state with only a small minority taste for Islamic fundamentalism. The Turks, with their zest for life, scorn those Arabs who preach holy austerity at home and indulge in riotous excess in foreign capitals.

But there remain differences in democracy and human rights which could hold up Turkish entry to the EEC as well as economic considerations.

When asked about the recent arrest of two Christian evangelicals in Ankara for proselytizing their faith, Mr Inal Barn, the equable foreign affairs spokesman, told us: "If they were arrested they must



● Mrs Thatcher: Waving flags for British industry ●



● Mr Ozal: Pressing for early Turkish EEC membership ●

Maxwell likely to face veto over bid

Sydney — The Australian Government plans to block a \$320-million bid by the publisher, Mr Robert Maxwell, to buy the Melbourne newspaper *The Age*.

Mr Maxwell is understood to have offered twice as much for the paper as the Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, and the Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating, both prefer a local buyer.

Locusts fear

Rome (AFP) — Swarms of locusts plaguing North Africa are expected to invade the central states of western Africa by the end of May or beginning of June, according to UN experts meeting here.

Braun letter

Munich (AP) — The late Adolf Hitler's mistress, Eva Braun, written on April 1945, seven days before the couple committed suicide, is expected to fetch \$1,600 at auction on April 22.

Defection ban

Seoul (AP) — South Korea said it is studying measures to clamp down on political defections during the Olympic Games, which begin here in September.

Three die

Sydney — Three people trapped for several days by Australia's floods chartered a plane to get home and were killed when the aircraft crashed on landing at Cal Harbour in northern New South Wales, after being caught in an electrical storm. Four passengers survived.

Delhi deal

Delhi (AFP) — India has bought nine of the latest British military Combat Engineer Tractors, and plans to buy 100 more to help it instantly to clear obstacles in future battlefields.

Prawn pirates

Dhaka — Pirates in a boat mangrove forest in southern Bangladesh killed 15 fish men and fled with their catch of prawns worth \$10,000.

during's future

Africa, was holding a series of talks with southern Angola, show solidarity with the people who claim they are victims of atrocities by security forces.

Anglican bishops are holding their annual synod in Windhoek next week. I spoke to the Archbishop of the Namibian episcopate had been chosen as a venue to mark the 10th anniversary of the adoption of Resolution 435 by the UN Security Council.

● **JOHANNESBURG:** South Africa's Ambassador to the UN was in Paris visiting a girl friend during the UN Security Council debate on mandating sanctions against South Africa. It was revealed yesterday (Ray Kennedy writes).

Only days before the debate, Mr Les Murray had delivered a speech, written for him by the Foreign Minister, Mr R. "Pik" Botha, in which he said Africa "challenged the world community to 'do its duty'". Sources said that a few weeks Mr Murray had given permission to take a break, but that he had later told his superiors it would coincide with the debate.

ical teams e-evaluated

drilling three holes in the wall of the passage leading to the so-called Queen's chamber in the interior of the pyramid indicated the possibility of unknown chambers. The holes were not too far from the entrance, and some 20m long, reaching through the thickness of the granite wall to a small space beyond—but not large enough to fit a person.

The Japanese expedition led by Dr Sakurai Yoshimasa of Waseda University had scanned the pyramid with a non-destructive electronic device, also known as a magnetic resonance tomography. But the device, which is used for medical diagnosis, is not yet sophisticated enough to detect the passage at the top of the pyramid, where the team have detected metal.

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TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

One must never get confused and imagine that we have anything at all in common with Americans. A week today the cricket season starts, in its usual low-key, understated fashion. The first ball of the season is generally a trundled in-docker down the leg side: no run. The summer snooze can commence. This week saw the beginning of the baseball season in the States. Every year it begins with great fanfare, with celebrities tossing out the first pitch—throwing a ball from the stands on to the field of play.

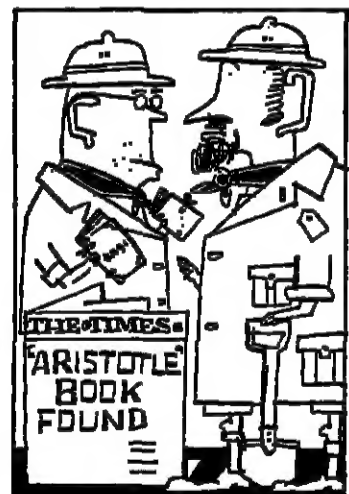
This year the top celebrity toss-out of the day was performed by Jessica McClure, aged two. Observers of American life, especially those who were around during the World Series last autumn, will recall that the nation thrilled to the Jessica McClure story for days on end: the poor child was trapped down a well in Texas for 58 hours. America watched as the rescue operation was mounted.

Very much alive, fit and famous, Jessica, tossed out the first pitch at the Texas Rangers game, and at three feet it was the shortest toss of the day. I wish they would try something like that at Lord's. And then we could also sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" during the tea interval, perhaps.

It's the Grand National today, and this column is going for the hat-trick. Having tipped the winners of the last two years, my racing snout ("The Great One") has emerged from his form-books, tarot cards and tea-leaves to tell us that West Tip is the boy. For a nice outsider, back Hard Case each way. West Tip, who won in 1986, was a classically improbable Grand National winner. The horse, of course, had a near fatal crash with a lorry, and still carries a gigantic scar. This is in the Grand National tradition all right. In 1904 a horse called Mofta, from New Zealand, was shipwrecked and had to swim ashore. The following day, it won the National. Rubie, who won 80 years ago, once pulled a bus. Tipperary Tip won in 1928 with a metal tube in its throat. The 1848 winner, Chandler, had once been used to settle a grocery bill. Glenside, which won in 1911, had only one eye—and in fact was the only finisher.

Chelsea football club's obstructionism and insult to the press has always had a gritty, bracing charm. Their livewire chairman, Ken Bates, has run a personal jihad against the press for years. But suddenly Chelsea have gone nice, if not downright smarmy. Reporters at the match against Watford last week were left reeling after a series of shocks. Seasoned Chelsea hands, accustomed to the grim-visaged stewards they call "the Gestapo", found smiling faces on unrecognizably helpful men who called them "Sir". The ritual post-match press conference was always a reluctant affair held in a boiler-room: this time the bemused men of the pen were politely shown to the manager's office and treated to sandwiches, cold beer, chilled white wine and spirits. The caretaker manager, Bobby Campbell, presented himself as a happy, laughing chap. It's enough to wreck one's faith in human nature.

BARRY FANTONI



"2,600 years old I imagine the library fine will be horrendous"

A hole-in-one is golf's quotidian miracle. But the brothers Reg and Ron Harradine have done their best to extend the boundaries of the possible. Neither is any world-beater at the game: Reg plays off 27, and Ron off 28. But on the same day last month, and in the same competition at St George's Golf Club, Weybridge, each managed a hole-in-one. At the same hole, naturally.

This column sends its best hurrahs to Len Habbitts, who takes part in the scullers' head of the river race today. He has taken part in every scullers since the race began: he was 43 when he entered the first, and is 79 now. He was a former Diamond Sculls finalist (1938) and his words could be adopted as a motto by us all: "I never distress myself. I want to live a bit longer, so I don't push it."

I hear a sad tale from Barbados. David Murray, the former West Indian wicket-keeper, took the krugerrand some years ago, and went on the two West Indian rebel cricket tours of South Africa. The money involved was unbelievable for the first tour alone he was paid US\$96,000. Now he is broke. He has blown the whole lot, mostly on drugs: a result, he says, of the shame he was made to feel on his return.

The game of cricket has now been officially recognized in France. The Fédération Française de Cricket has been given formal approval by the Prefecture de Police in Paris. This means that the federation can apply for government grants. Already a new cricket ground is planned for Paris, in the Bagatelle, near the Pont de Fautaux, too late to benefit the French National Cricket Championship, which takes place in the Dordogne at the end of the month, so the event is financed by sponsorship and private money. Crucially, Spinoff and local Bergerac wine-growers have contributed to the refreshments. I don't suppose the French championship could subsist on the classic cricket *ancienne cuisine*: a sandwich, a slice of Swiss roll and sweet, milky tea: the taste of summer.

"What matters most about political ideas is the underlying emotions, the music to which the ideas are mere libretto, often of very inferior quality." — Sir Lewis Namier.

The American media like to play with presidential candidates as the Homeric gods once played with the heroes on the plains of Troy—visiting them with rosy dreams, jerking them up and down on the strings of the opinion polls, killing them for sport. Given the media's presumptions of omnipotence as well as their delight in melodrama, the Rev Jesse Jackson's loss in Wisconsin works to his advantage. Suddenly becoming a far less ominous persona, he regains the privileges of a holy fool.

At least until the New York primary on April 19, the media can safely re-assign him the task of keeping the nation's conscience. Now that it looks as if Jackson cannot possibly win the nomination at the Democratic convention in Atlanta in July, let him say whatever he wants to say about the desolation of the American soul, about "economic violence" and corporate greed, about the venality of the Reagan administration and the heartlessness of a plutocracy that so blandly accepts, as the price of its comfort, the higher rates of poverty and crime.

Let the gentleman make his fine speeches because, in any luck and the right sort of campaign, his speeches won't cause any more trouble, and nobody will have to ask awkward ques-

tions about the gentleman's history as a demagogue and his sleights-of-hand with public money.

In the strict sense of the word, Jesse Jackson isn't a politician at all—he is a preacher obliged to dress up his sermon in the language of politics because that is the language in which the media measure the worth of his good news. Like the Rev Jimmy Swaggart, Jackson brings the faithful a message of hope and salvation, promising, as Jimmy Carter promised, to redeem the country, not to govern it. He speaks in rhythms and metaphors, improvising riffs on the theme of paradise regained, and his audiences shout and clap and stomp their feet.

Despite his credentials as opportunist and confidence man, much of what Jackson says is both eloquent and true. He plumbs the well springs of the nation's uneasiness and discontent, giving shape to a feeling of indignation and a sense that something has gone seriously awry in the American order of values. He speaks for an electorate insulted by the petty criminals holding public office and stifled with the cant pub-

lished in a national press become as timid as its owners.

Being black, Jackson represents in his person the condition of people suppressed by a government that serves, tirelessly and with an unctuous smile, the interests of the rich. The only candidate in either party to use the words "liberty" and "justice", Jackson voices the sentiments once thought to be traditional among politicians who presumed to represent the aspirations of the common people.

He retains his licence to say what he pleases as long as his words remain figures of speech, as long as everybody understands that he doesn't care who writes the libretto, or what the lyrics mean. Had any white politician travelled around the country making comparable announcements, the press would have hounded him with relentless questions. By and large, the press said nothing about Jackson's subtle playing on the instruments of racial hatred and racial fear, nor did it inquire too closely into the sources of his campaign funds. The voices of respectable opinion kept silent because hardly anybody took Jackson seriously. His rhetoric

Lewis Lapham assesses Jesse Jackson's Wisconsin setback

Cooling the hot gospeller

Bernard Levin

Liberty's happy champion



Sinyavsky-Daniel trial to a 60-page analysis of the work of Isaac Deutscher which leaves that "false prophet" in more pieces than Humpty Dumpty. (There are three more such hollow idols in the same section, one being E.H. Carr, long overdue for demolition, another that almost tragic figure Alexander Werth, who used to spend a decade or so falsifying history in the interests of the Soviet Union, then admit culpability for his behaviour, and then start all over again, and Noam Chomsky, who—for all Leo's scrupulous tracing of his tergiversations—is plainly not worth the space.)

Leo's splendid defence of Orwell against those who wanted to

water him down is particularly significant; there is much of the English writer's approach and character in the Pole (though, incidentally, Leo is one of those naturalized Britons—who love their new motherland more passionately than many of the native born).

I have always felt that Orwell was symbolically defined by the way he went about refuting the Stalinist lie that during the Second World War the Trotskyites (because they criticized Stalin) must have been in the pay of Hitler. I would have gone about it by interviewing all the Trotskyites I could find, studying their publications, going to their meetings, interrogating

their accusers, following their leaders and tapping their telephones. At the end of six months I would have an immense dossier, housed in hundreds of boxes, proving without the slightest doubt that the Trotskyites were not, and never had been, in the pay of Hitler, and I would feel, though exhausted, pretty pleased with myself.

Orwell provided the same rigorous proof in a single sentence: "I have sometimes pointed out," he wrote, "that if the Trotskyites were in the pay of Hitler, or of anyone else, they would occasionally have some money." And here is Leo Labez, reaching into his almost incredibly comprehensive ar-

to open lines of diplomatic communication with Manuel Noriega in Panama. An anonymous source suggested that Jackson was casting himself as the leader of a Third World nation that happened to be located within the boundaries of the continental United States.

Under this interpretation, Jackson appears before the faithful as an American Noriega or Tshombe, a charismatic figure in a safari suit embracing Fidel Castro, making overtures to the Sandinistas and the PLO, not on behalf of the United States but on behalf of the imaginary state of *Amerique la Noire*.

After this week's loss in Wisconsin (which could be perceived as a loss only because of the exaggerated expectations imposed on the election by the media), the criticism dwindled away to a chronic muttering. For the time being it looks as if the Democratic nomination will be remanded to the back rooms of a brokered convention. Back where it safely and properly belongs—among the dealers in hypocrisy. Jackson will demand some sort of ransom, and he won't be easy to deal with, but the white boys mind their manners and remember to mention John Coltrane; they might persuade him to play his horn on the street corners in November, ringing in a crowd with a jazz rendition of the old-time political gospel.

The author is Editor of *Hanger's Magazine*.

Commentary • MICHAEL KINSLEY

Fly now, pay never

Washington March 3 was the busiest day ever at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. People were rushing to qualify for the biggest commercial bribe in the history of capitalism—"triple mileage" in airline "frequent flyer" programmes, which offer free travel and other perks based on the number of miles you fly with any particular airline.

Most major airlines were offering triple mileage credit on all flights for the rest of the year to anybody who flew one round trip before the end of March. Since their invention in 1981, frequent flyer programmes have become an obsession among America's travelling class, which includes business executives, salesmen and political reporters. Eight million people belong to an average of three or four programmes each. They will be owed more than \$1 billion in free travel by the end of 1988.

People balance their mileage accounts more carefully than their checkbooks, pore over the befuddling complex rules and weigh the value of three first-class upgrades versus a domestic round-trip companion ticket (Hawaii not included, certain holidays blacked out) versus off-season round trip to Amsterdam (other extra weekend dates some where along the route, but only if you change planes in St Louis), and so on.

For the airlines, frequent flyer programmes have two purposes. The first is to build brand loyalty in a business where the products are pretty indistinguishable. The second is to deal with the reality that business travellers don't pay

for their own tickets. So frequent-flyer programmes are a bribe to employees deciding how to spend their money.

The original programmes simply distributed coupons on each flight, which could be saved up for free travel. When employers started demanding that employees turn in the coupons, the airlines responded with today's elaborate computerized accounting systems and various rules making the mileage credits hard to transfer.

Though the airlines deny it, frequent flyer programmes clearly lead to higher fares. The airlines have just increased full economy fares on domestic flights by about 15 per cent and tightened restrictions on discount fares, even as the mileage giveaway explodes. The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants is thinking of requiring airlines to set aside 10 per cent of all revenues—that would be \$4 billion a year—to pay for future free travel.

The programmes are a rip-off in other ways as well. They encourage people travelling at the firm's expense to choose the airline they belong to, rather than the one with the cheapest fare. And many take entirely needless trips in order to run up their mileage. Every American office worker has stories about this sort of thing, and the statistics bear them out: American Airlines' passenger miles in February were 25 per cent up on 1987, despite higher fares and a slower economy. "Triple mileage" is the explanation.

Most insidious, frequent flyer programmes protect the estab-

lished airlines against new competition. America's decade-long experiment in airline deregulation has been a spectacular success, and the envy of European free marketers. Fares have fallen, in real terms, by about a quarter. But critics predict that this is only temporary; after a shake-out, they say, a few large carriers will dominate the market and be able to raise prices. Recent developments are starting to bear them out.

By its nature, the airline industry should be one of the easiest to break into. All you need is a couple of leased aircraft and a bucket of paint for your logo. But frequent flyer programmes make it very hard to crack. If someone has 100,000 miles racked up with United, he will not switch to Upstart Airlines, no matter how cheap or convenient its flights.

One especially irritating feature of frequent flyer programmes is that they are tax-free. I doubt that anyone in America has ever been saintly enough to decide the free travel as in-kind income. The government has never pressed the point, though the tax officials claim to be studying the matter.

The airlines are said to be secretly crying so. They fear they have created a monster that will swallow all their profits when people start cashing in their mileage. It would serve them right. This is what happens when you massage the great American g-spot ("g", in this case, for greed).

The author is Editor of *New Republic*.

SCIENCE REPORT

High methane

Roughly a third of the methane gas in the Earth's atmosphere comes from the burning of fossil fuel, according to New Zealand researchers in this week's *Nature*. This estimate is important both because of the continuing uncertainty about the source of methane in the atmosphere and because the steady accumulation of the gas may have climatic consequences.

Methane concentration in the air has been something of a puzzle in the past ten years, during which it has increased by an average of 1.5 per cent a year. Comparisons of the air we now breathe with bubbles of ancient air trapped in polar ice have shown that methane concentrations have increased 1.5 times since 1800.

Anxiety about methane centres on the possibility that it will accentuate the "greenhouse effect". The predicted warming of the Earth's surface based predominantly on the increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Methane, the simplest of all hydrocarbons and the chief constituent of natural gas, is still a "trace" gas, accounting for only a few parts per 1,000 million in ground-level air, compared with one part in 300 for carbon dioxide. But methane is expected to be much more efficient at trapping heat radiation near the Earth's surface, thus increasing near-surface temperature world-



Richard Leadbetter

wide, while its concentration is increasing six times faster than that of carbon dioxide.

Surprisingly, the possible role of methane in the greenhouse mechanism has been recognized only in the past decade or so, as the feasibility of measuring the small quantities present in the atmosphere has been demonstrated.

Where has all the extra methane come from? Analyses of air samples trapped in polar ice show that the rise in atmospheric methane matches human population growth. This is not surprising, apart from the burning of fossil fuels and other organic materials, the chief known sources of methane are rice paddies and fermentation in the guts of domestic animals, particularly cattle. But methane is also

produced naturally in wetlands (whence its popular name "marsh gas") and in the digestion of certain other creatures, among which termites are conspicuous.

David Lowe and his colleagues at the Institute of Nuclear Sciences at the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in New Zealand have set out to detect the source of the methane by measuring the proportions of the three carbon isotopes which it contains. These are versions of carbon atoms which are chemically identical but which differ in mass.

While all methane contains the predominant isotope carbon-12, methane from fossil fuels more than a few thousand years old contains none of the radioactive isotope carbon-14, formed by cosmic rays in the atmosphere and which is therefore contained in the methane given off by living plants and animals.

On this basis, the researchers conclude that about 32 per cent of the methane arises from the burning of fossil fuels. Whether this is good or bad news is uncertain. Even if it should be necessary and possible in coming decades to restrict the increase of carbon dioxide by constraining the use of fossil fuel, it may still be necessary to restrict methane increases by modifying agricultural practices.

HENRY GEE

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

BIRTHS

AMBY - On March 28th 1988, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Amby. A sister for Christopher.

BLAND - On April 8th, at the Portland Hospital to Elizabeth and Jose, a son, Jose Maria.

CLARK - On April 6th, at Liphig, to Frances (nee Lough) and Mike, a son, Adam John, a brother for Joanna.

CURRY - On April 7th, at St. Richard's, Chichester, to Richard and Catherine, a daughter, Emily.

DURHAM - On April 2nd, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Durham. A brother for Christopher.

GOWAN - On March 21st, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Gowan. A brother for Christopher.

HART - On April 4th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Hart. A brother for Christopher.

LAVERY - On March 22nd, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Lavery. A brother for Christopher.

LEWIS - On March 26th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis. A brother for Christopher.

LYONS - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Lyons. A brother for Christopher.

PICKARD - On March 20th 1988, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Pickard. A brother for Christopher.

STARKIN - On April 1st, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Starkin. A brother for Christopher.

TOMES - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Tomes. A brother for Christopher.

WILKINSON - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Wilkinson. A brother for Christopher.

WOODS - On March 27th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Woods. A brother for Christopher.

DEATHS

ADAMS - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Adams. A brother for Christopher.

BELLAMY - On April 4th 1988, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Bellamy. A brother for Christopher.

BROOKES - On April 2nd, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Brookes. A brother for Christopher.

CHAPMAN - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Chapman. A brother for Christopher.

CLARK - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Clark. A brother for Christopher.

COOPER - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Cooper. A brother for Christopher.

DUNN - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Dunn. A brother for Christopher.

FERRELL - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Ferrell. A brother for Christopher.

FUGLEMAN - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Fugleman. A brother for Christopher.

HARRISON - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison. A brother for Christopher.

MILLING - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Milling. A brother for Christopher.

MURPHY - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Murphy. A brother for Christopher.

NEWMAN - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Newman. A brother for Christopher.

ROBERTS - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Roberts. A brother for Christopher.

SMITH - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Smith. A brother for Christopher.

TAYLOR - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Taylor. A brother for Christopher.

WATSON - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Watson. A brother for Christopher.

WILSON - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson. A brother for Christopher.

YOUNG - On April 6th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. John Young. A brother for Christopher.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BELGIAN

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FOR SALE

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

DRAWING DOWN THE MOON

FOR SALE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cancer

Why you should make provision in your Will for Child-beaters, Alcoholics and Shop-lifters

3,000,000 Afghan refugees can't just walk home.

Services tomorrow

First Sunday after Easter

Church News

Birthdays

Latest wills

Base Rate

PICKARD

As Bishop Suffragan of Leobombo. It was a great pleasure.

In his report to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel - to which the diocese looked for support - for the year 1987, the Bishop noted evidence of a "renewal" in the congregations thanks to the efforts of his new dean. And he added, "encouraging news from a war area" in the diocese. The Bishop's work is still going on, but despite this the work of the diocese continues.

In 1968 he resigned his provincial office of the Province of Africa and an assistant bishop of Johannesburg, where he held until 1981.

Soon after, he returned to England and to the diocese of Worcester as an assistant bishop. He was later made Bishop of the Beauharnois diocese in Malvern.

He was unmarried.

WILEY

With his fine knowledge of classical languages, his modern European and Hebrew working knowledge, and his deep understanding of the Hebrew language, he was a valuable asset to the diocese.

Among his many achievements, he was a member of the diocesan synod, a member of the diocesan council, and a member of the diocesan committee for the promotion of the diocese.

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A potter chasing perfection

Birthdays

Latest wills

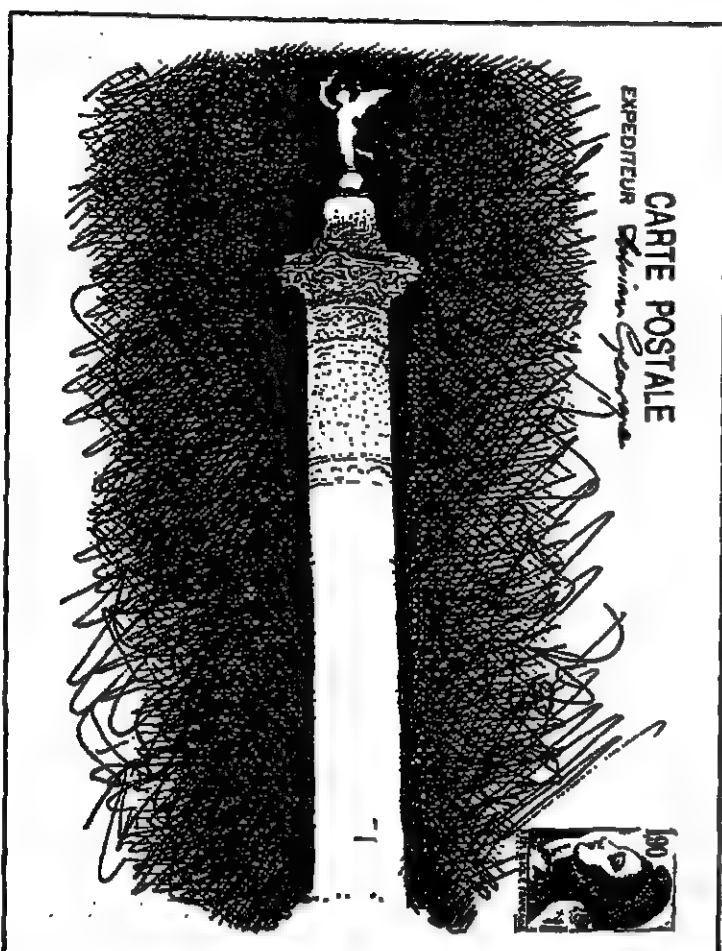
Base Rate

April 9-15, 1988

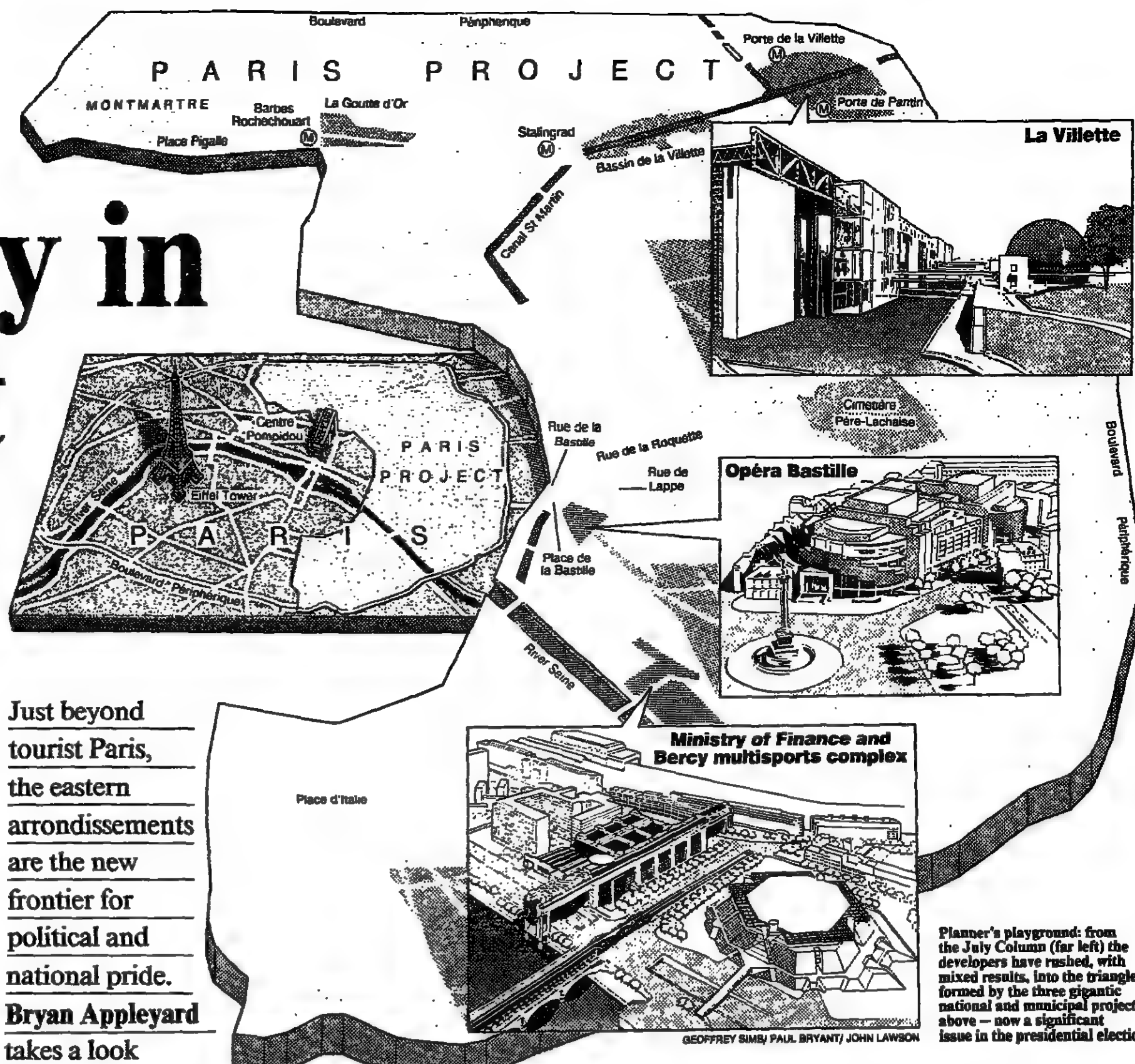
SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Going for glory in the east



CARTE POSTALE



Just beyond tourist Paris, the eastern arrondissements are the new frontier for political and national pride. Bryan Appleyard takes a look

Paris is obsessively adorned by her lovers. The Eiffel Tower, the Opéra, the Louvre and the Centre Pompidou are the costly trinkets offered by one proud fool after another. The world is invited to wonder at these lovers' excesses and to gasp at the generosity of a French Grand Passion, their profligacy in pursuit of *la gloire*. Yet Paris retains some nasty habits. When she is not being a *grande dame* in the Rue du Faubourg St-Honore, she can be found in a leather mini-skirt winking at you from a doorway in the Rue St Denis. But she has an even bigger secret. For, in reality, Paris does not stop, like the tourist maps, at the Place des Vosges or the Boulevard de la Chapelle. Beyond there, she continues eastwards into the altogether different landscape of L'Est.

The eastern arrondissements of Paris form a huge kidney-shaped area. The outer curve is defined by the Boulevard Périphérique, one

of the world's most terrifying roads, and the inner by the fashionable Marais. In between there are 49 per cent of the city's population but only 30 per cent of its jobs, as well as 100,000 "sub-standard" homes and areas of deprivation that make Brixton look affluent.

So what? Every city has its East End, a shabby underside to its wealth and there are miles of hideous urban wastelands all around the fringes of Paris itself. But L'Est is not a suburb; geographically and socially it is Paris proper. Its dilapidations are not the ignominious by-products of economic growth, they are scars on the face of the nation's mistress.

Municipal and national pride, therefore, demanded that something must be done. The *Paris Project* was born, a long-term scheme involving government, local authority and private money to provide plastic surgery for the weaker of Madame's two profiles.

But there were also more practical reasons. In the Sixties, the

fashionable place to live and be seen was the Left Bank, around the Boulevard Saint-Germain. Prices were high, however, and, with the completion of the Centre Pompidou, the small art galleries, the primary indicators of real-estate chic, moved to the Marais. This area was transformed from shabby poverty to shiny wealth almost overnight. It was a move reinforced by the development of Les Halles, the vast old market area just west of the Marais, into a new shopping complex.

Each time the surrounding tenements were converted into fashionable lofts and the *beau monde* moved in. But these areas were small, and increasing affluence meant that demand for both commercial and domestic property was high. In addition, last year, rent controls were abandoned and Parisians found themselves with doubled rent bills and a property price boom. The solution was to move East — down the Rue de Rivoli as far as the Place de la Bastille. And there, conveniently, the city's latest suitors were busily building her the biggest opera house in the world.

It is here, on the eastern edge of the Marais, that the market and the *glorie* have come together to invade the East. It is not a promising place to start. The square itself is a daunting space where once the prison of the Bastille stood. Surrounding its centerpiece, the July Column, with its winged Victory, is a gigantic and appallingly busy traffic roundabout. It is on the south side of this windy enclave that the Opéra Bastille is being built.

But, you may protest, Paris already has an opera. That, however, in the confident words of the government public relations machine, "cannot on its own satisfy the growing public passion for opera". Neither could it satisfy President Mitterrand's passion for his mistress. In 1983 he held an architectural competition to build an opera house on the site of the old Bastille railway station and, out of the 740 entries, he chose that of a Canadian, Carlos Ott.

Most now agree this was a less than brilliant choice. Ott's worthy but dull efforts fail to focus the raging spaces of the Place de la Bastille, offering only a curved facade of sad mediocrity.

Never mind: it is being built, and should be finished by next year. The area has been galvanized. Across the square in the Rue de la Bastille is the huge maroon and gold Brasserie Bofinger. An ancient eatery which had fallen on hard times, it now exudes the dark glow of successful Paris. Off the square run the Rue de la Roquette and, off that, the Rue de Lappe. Here the galleries are moving in; cheap but trendy clothes shops have opened.

But there is a long way to go. Sweaty, unshaven easterners in vests still peer at interlopers from first-floor windows, and the ancient courtyards behind the street facades are still waiting for the advertising agents to start cooing and clasping their hands at the wooden balconies and cobble stones. Yet one day they will, for the property developers are here.

Take the Metro five stops south and you are in Place d'Italie, the southern focus of L'Est. This is not quite as intimidating as Bastille but the poor post-war blocks that

surround it present as much of a design problem. Various schemes have been suggested but none, so far, has been decided upon.

The real thrill, however, comes next. Take the Metro (direction: Nation) four stops north. It threads its way above ground through the nondescript blocks that fill most of eastern Paris. Then suddenly, between Quai de la Gare and Bercy, it leaps across the Seine and dips down on the far side. Here you will see two of the biggest buildings you have ever seen in your life.

The one on the left is the new Ministry of Finance. Like a huge wall, it keeps three roads before coming to a halt on the banks of the Seine. None of this, however, has so far impressed the staff of the Ministry of Finance. They currently live in the Louvre and intend to stay there. For all the talk of revitalizing the East, the lunches and the shopping are still a good deal better on the Right Bank. If Mitterrand wins the election, they will probably have to go, as the new ministry is a presidential special. If Jacques Chirac gets in, however, there is talk of him letting out the new ministry as commercial offices.

convinced everybody that it should go ahead. What "it" is, however, is faintly mysterious.

"De la Science à la Musique..." croon the brochures, "un Parc actif." La Villette is far from completed. But the idea is that the science and industry museum, now open, will be joined by music schools, a huge, restored 19th-century iron and glass hall and large areas of elaborately laid-out parkland. It is far too early to judge the success or otherwise of the whole scheme; but it is not a moment too soon to assert that the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie which dominates the entire complex is not right.

This is a single, rectangular block which owes obvious debts to the Centre Pompidou. But it has none of that building's excitement and approachability. Instead grey pylons support thunderous and menacing blue steel trusses, the whole rising out of uninspiring square sheets of water. Its scale is heroic but the effect is oppressive. When you leave you are confronted by La Géode. This is "Une Sphère Parfaite" of stainless steel. Inside, we are told, there is a cinema. I have no empirical evidence of this, since they were taking bookings eight weeks in advance. Beyond that the parkland is littered with architectural fantasies which look, for the moment, chill and patronizing.

These three developments — Bastille, Bercy and Villette — are the great public schemes which will anchor the 15-year development of the east of Paris. To British eyes they may seem old-fashioned — redolent of the grand ambitions of the Sixties and equally fraught with the possibilities of disaster. This is ironic, as we repeatedly build equally big, but architecturally far worse, office blocks without thinking twice about it. But the French never seem to have had the same crisis of confidence in the future. Almost alone in the world, they still believe in these great public monuments and grand rationalizations of the urban landscape.

"Nobody builds like the French," said the architectural journalist Marc Emery. "These things are our shop windows. We are saying to the world that we have the experiences with opera houses or whatever. We take on the Japanese with our high-speed trains and our Minitel computers. This is the same kind of thing."

The problem is, for the moment, that in L'Est there is no context. Drab urban sprawl surrounds these new monuments. Take a walk, for example, of about one kilometre east of the Place Pigalle. This takes you into the upper lobe of the kidney — the area known as La Goutte d'Or around the Metro station of Barbès Rochechouart, the ghetto in which live Paris's poor blacks and Arabs. It is a landscape of extraordinary deterioration and decay where the election posters — "Il écoute. Oui c'est Chirac" — look more than ever like bad jokes. Barely a mile away, just by the Bourse in Rue Vivienne, the avant-garde clothes designer Jean-Paul Gaultier is selling his suits.

But the French are rationalists. They like their cinemas spherical, their boulevards straight and their capital smart and dramatic. In 10 years, Marc Emery estimated, La Goutte d'Or will also be fashion-

able. The poor blacks and Arabs will have gone and the middle classes with the support of their politicians will have taken one more step to colonizing the entire area within the Boulevard Périphérique.

These things happen, of course, but will the East compensate by taking on some of the grace and beauty of the West? So far it looks unpromising. The one unquestionably brilliant very modern building in Paris — Jean Nouvel's Institut du Monde Arabe on the corner of the Quai St Bernard and the Rue des Fossés St Bernard — is outside the area. Those inside L'Est do not yet look as though they can accommodate the old city of dreams: impossible, for example, to visualize a Phantom of the Opéra Bastille, though the Hunchback of the Bercy Multisports Complex is just about conceivable.

Meanwhile at Marne-la-Vallée, a new town 10 kilometres east of Paris, the first European Disneyland is being built: a

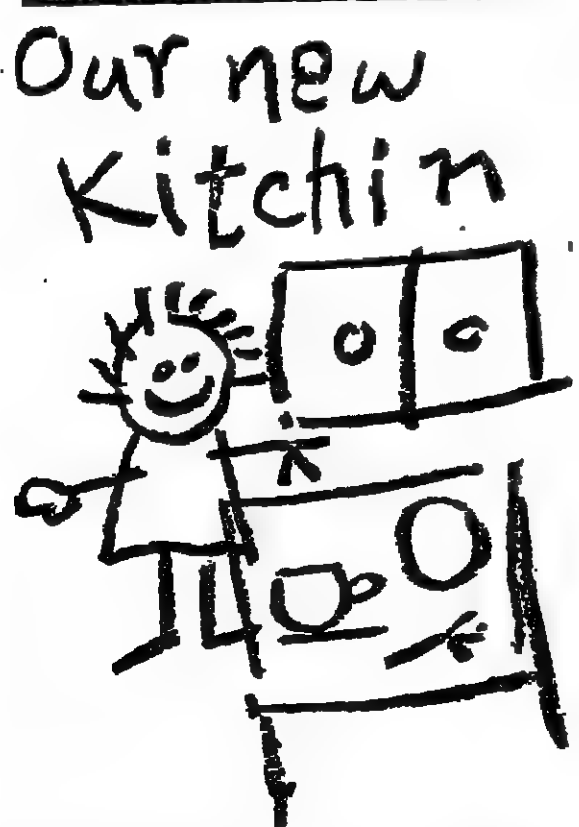
strange cartoon climax to the whole eastward momentum.

But, until this all starts working and Gaultier moves to the Rue de Rappe, the heart of L'Est remains the great cemetery of Père-Lachaise. The streets around here are peaceful and anonymous, restaurants half the price of those in the Marais. Nevertheless, *les yuppies* are said to be heading this way fast.

But inside the cemetery itself, with the aid of a 10-franc guide bought from the *ricroiseuse* at the gate, you can visit the graves of Molière, Proust, Abelard and Héloïse, Delacroix, Ingber and, of course, Oscar Wilde. The avenues and passages of the old necropolis mimic the landscape of the living city outside. On the newer, northern side, where Wilde lies, *avenues transversales* cross the cemetery in a deadly pastiche of the great boulevards of the Right Bank.

The French are rationalists to the end. They think you can plan everything, death included, and it is thrilling to watch them try.

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The monster on the right is the Bercy Multisports Complex, or the Palais Omnisports. This weird structure is essentially a stadium. It is topped by a steel frame resting on four concrete stumps. Its walls are formed of patterns of steps and lawns sloping at an angle of 45 degrees, a bizarre effect that leaves one wondering how you would ever push a mower up or control one coming down.

The final big gesture in the East is La Villette. This is a great triangle with its apex at the Stalingrad Metro station and its base resting on Porte de la Villette and Porte de Pantin. To central Parisians this base is like Ursa Major or the Crab Nebula — unthinkably distant. First conceived by Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, it was the success of the Centre Pompidou that finally



Win a holiday in Paris, page 16; summer skiing, page 14; the good beach guide, 16

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Saturday and Sunday lunch at The Veeraswamy

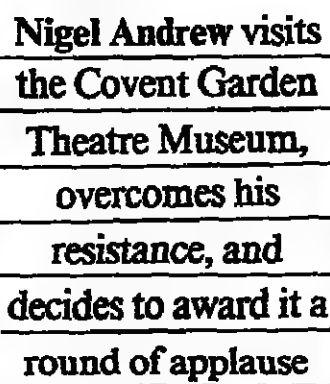


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"The experience of theatre" is what the museum is attempting to recreate — a difficult brief, theatre being such a dynamic and transient thing and a museum so static and permanent. The main exhibition area is downstairs — or rather



We are lucky to have this museum. For any museum at all to open, rather than close, in the present climate is an achievement. The Theatre Museum, which is part of the Victoria & Albert, came into being only after many struggles and setbacks. It is an important research centre as well as a unique national collection (with 20,000 books and a vast number of programmes and play bills helping towards its total of roughly two million items).

A country so fixated on its theatrical tradition as this one, and where theatre studies are burgeoning, should have had such a museum years ago. Now we have it, it deserves to succeed. With luck, it could soon be swarming with Japanese coach parties.

The Theatre Museum, Russell St, Covent Garden, London (01-836 7891) is open every day except Mondays, 11am-7pm. Admission £2.25, children, OAPs £1.25. It is currently staging a large-scale John Gielgud exhibition (until August).



the Queen is the sainted Margaret of Scotland, to wader at the man-made harmony from the water's edge: the straight lines of the 1880s to the right, the graceful curves of the 1960s to the left. The synthesis is as beautiful as Tintex or Derwentwater.

After pausing to visit another reminder of David Balfour, the Hawes Inn, go under the rail bridge approach and up the steps to Dalmeary Station for the short but memorable train ride across the Fifth to Inverkeithing. Trains are frequent, but check Sunday timetables.

Iain Liddell

CLARE ROBERTS

WEEKEND TIPS

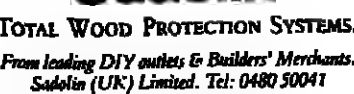
- Split and replant clumps of snowdrops and winter aconites to increase stock.
- Acclimatize seedlings of lettuces, peas and spinach best to outdoor conditions and begin to plant them out.
- Protect young seedlings with frames or cloches on heavy soils or hill areas.
- Sow hardy annuals in situ.

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EATING OUT

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THE ARTS

Radio Docklands starts on high note

Sooner or later someone was bound to make a thriller about Docklands. Slightly less likely was the possibility that someone would make a thriller about local radio, which in my limited experience consists of sleepy corridors, cold coffee, and one studio in which sits a single, maniacally enthusiastic broadcaster desperately trying to work the record player, read the news, find the recipes, interview a passing author, and persuade himself that someone is listening.

This Air (BBC1) has done the double in making a thriller about local radio in Docklands which looks like being the hit of the year. Written by radio presenter Sarah

TELEVISION

Dunant and Peter Busby, it is stylish, hard-hitting and breathlessly paced. The relentless output of *Urban Air*, a very upstart mobile radio-active station, forms a constant background linking together the lives of those who are entangled in its web.

The broadcasters are wonderfully well observed: Henry (Sam Kelly), the hard-bitten news editor whose BBC career hiccuped after some indiscretions, Zac (James Aubrey), and Joe (Brian Borell), disc jockeys respectively high on coke for the morning programme and smoothly insinuating for the night hours, and two female reporters, Samantha (Sarah Jane Morris) the station star who looks as if she is about to swallow the microphone for breakfast and has already swallowed most of the male staff, and Rachel (Kate Hardie), the cub reporter given a chance to work on a major story. She is a real find. Hardie captures that bent and harassed look of one editing tape against deadline with incredibly sexy skill.

The conflicts start because station owner Roger Hoffer (Nicky Henson, very flash) is also a major developer, and Mark (Kevin McNally) is a local activist out to thwart his progress and expose corruption in Docklands. As Samantha put it, everyone who makes money in Docklands has the smell of the river about them, but then she ended up in this first episode in a pool of blood on the studio floor, having let enough loose ends to take several episodes to the end.

William Holmes

Philip Kaufman talks to Simon Banner about bringing *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* to screen

Filming the impossible

HARRY KERR



The film maker Philip Kaufman: "My films are usually about people standing apart, about the reasons they show courage"

As promises go, the paperback publisher's "Soon to be a major motion picture" must be one of the more hollow. The passage from page to screen is by no means straight-forward and the casualties of film-makers' wishfulness — *The Name of the Rose* being one recent example — are numerous.

The director Philip Kaufman circumspectly describes his film of another highly-regarded novel, Milan Kundera's *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, which opens at the Empire 1 next week, as "a variation and not an adaptation". Considering the novel concerned, his caution is well-advised.

A wilfully meandering work, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* juxtaposes an erotic love story acted out against the background of the Soviet invasion of Prague in 1968, with a mass of often witty authorial asides on subjects as diverse as politics, sex and narrative method. Most who have read it will have judged it to be a singularly unlikely candidate for conversion into celluloid.

Even the maverick Kaufman, whose previous credits include direction of *The Wanderers* and *The Right Stuff*, admits that when the novel was first published in 1984 he "immediately knew" that it could not be made into a film. "For a start," he says, "Milan Kundera was the most interesting character in the whole book and it was hard to see how you could take him out or how you could leave him in."

It was Kaufman's producer friend Saul Zaentz (the man behind such Oscar-and-profit-laden hits as *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Amadeus*) who persuaded him to change his mind and attempt to find solutions to what he had previously regarded as insuperable problems. Perhaps surprisingly then, the resultant film, from a script Kaufman co-wrote, has met with approval not only from American critics but from the public — it has been selling \$1 million a week on what is so far only a limited release — and from Milan Kundera himself. "When we met him," Kaufman says, "his first word was 'eliminate'. That really set us free. Of course I wanted to remain true to what he had written, but I attempted to draw the spirit out of his book, as it were. As it turned out, I think virtually every scene in the film is concerned with love and one of its aspects. Even when the Russians invade, they use the word love. 'Don't you know we love you?' they say."

The politics of Kundera's novel

intermingled, meant hiring Soviet tanks from a French military museum.

The English actor Daniel Day-Lewis, cast as *The Unbearable Lightness of Being's* womanizing hero Tomas, displayed similar zeal for getting his performance right. Last seen as the punk hero of *My Beautiful Laundrette* and a prissy aesthete in *A Room With A View*, Day-Lewis was chosen for his latest role after a long search by Kaufman and his casting director on both sides of the Atlantic.

"We cast him and almost overnight, it seemed, he was in Prague going around hospitals," Kaufman says approvingly. "The character he plays is a top brain surgeon. Next thing he was in Paris working with a real brain surgeon right next to skulls being drilled open."

He adds: "I didn't really know his work at all when we cast him. I'd been on my last morning in London during which time I'd seen lots of actors. Still Tomas hadn't walked through the door. Then I flipped on the television set and there was Daniel, with his head shaved,

talking about playing Mayakovsky in a play at the National Theatre. There was something about him I liked. A wildness in his eyes. A real humour, too."

The Chicago-born Philip Kaufman began his career as a movie-maker with two independent films, *Goldstein* and *Fearless Frank*. They won him several awards and, ironically, a deal with Universal Pictures which made him one of the last of the old-style contract directors. "Before then," he says, "I'd spent a lot of time making speeches about how Hollywood was dying."

Since that move to California in 1967, Hollywood has refused to give up the ghost while Kaufman himself has gained a not altogether enviable reputation for producing cultish films with modest box-office potential. Among them are *The Great Northfield Minnesota Raid*, *The White Dawn*, *The Wanderers* and a remake of the classic thriller *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers*. He also wrote the story for *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and the screenplay for the Clint Eastwood vehicle *The Outlaw Josey Wales*. "My films are usually about people standing apart, about the reasons they show courage,"

His last film as a director was *The Right Stuff*, an expensive account of America's space programme, four years in the making, which notoriously failed to convert critical enthusiasm and club-rate promotion into success at the box-office. Kaufman believes it fell victim to inflated and misguided hype.

Despite its eight Academy Award nominations, *The Right Stuff* was a flop and for a while Kaufman's "telephone didn't ring quite so often." Recently he was even asked to do an interview for an article about directors who had disappeared. With *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, however, he can afford to laugh at the occurrence, and even talk about returning to Tinseltown for his next picture.

"There's a certain amount of weaseling that goes on in Hollywood and I don't like that. But of course I'll work there again. I've got various projects underway. Having only just finished *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, though, I intend to wait for a while before I decide on the next thing. I want to see the smoke settle."

Mr Energy eases off

CONCERT

LSO/Tilson Thomas Barbican

One notes a little ruefully that the current London Symphony Orchestra brochure splashes the name of Michael Tilson Thomas. "That's his trademark," we said, slightly. It does prompt visions of some human dynamo, driving his time between pumping and pulverizing Beethoven.

So this concert's all-Ravel second half was clearly intended as a stern corrective to *The Times* (trademark department). Denial and dramatics ruled: indeed, the complete *Ma Mère* Joyce was perhaps underpowered and certainly undercharacterized.

It was possible, though, that at this time Tilson Thomas was simply running off ideas about Ravel, for he had just superbly and persuasively, suave and, in a coloured interpretation of *Rapsodie Espagnole*. Here the superb playing from the LSO's opening string ostinato was done with an uncanny weight and sheen; the "cadenza" from the pairs of clarinets and bassoons were strikingly well phrased; the orchestra responded, as one, to Tilson Thomas's mature sense of rubato, and delivered the quick passages with great nimbleness and clarity.

Earlier, too, he brought the same skill in balancing and lightening textures, in obtaining absolutely unanimous attack and in conveying high-spirited "ecstatic" music with an infectious zest, to the weightier material of Strauss's *Fall-Eidenspiegler*. That was perhaps to be expected (after all, energy is his trademark). More surprising was how affectionately and relaxed his treatment of the music sounded; this was not a pressed, whizz-kid reading.

Nor, for different reasons, was Jorge Bolet's of Liszt's First Piano Concerto. One must admire Bolet for his uncompromising clarity, ever questing pianism — rejecting all easy answers, worrying away at phrases, rather than polishing them, opting for a deliberately "rough-cut", half-scarred rough even in lyrical passages.

But in the concerto's inner sections Bolet did seem unnecessarily insouciant or simply stolid. He was in good form technically, however, and his performance was enhanced by some stylish solo playing from LSO principals in the chamber passages.

Richard Morrison

Chelsea does its duty by Nelson

OPERA

Nelson Queen Elizabeth Hall

It may be a month too early to celebrate Sir Lennox Berkeley's 85th birthday, but it cannot be too soon to present a long overdue stage revival of his first opera, *Nelson*. The Chelsea Opera Group, conducted by Grant Llewellyn, persuaded us of the fact in their enterprising concert performance on Wednesday.

It is a work which has lain dormant since its 1954 Sadler's Wells premiere, only to be woken by bursts of less than generous criticism and one valuable BBC studio recording in 1983. British opera houses, unlike Nelson himself, have not, it seems, done their duty. For this is a distinctive, sharply-profiled work, purposefully structured, and as good to sing and to play, I am sure, as it is compelling to hear.

Three acts and six scenes confidently follow the course of history from Nelson's triumph after the Battle of Nile to his death in the cockpit of the *Victory*. Madame Serafin's fortune-telling (regally announced by Angela Hickey) sets the ball rolling; the crux occurs when love and duty clash. The dénouement, most

restrained in its shaping, manages even to fit in the famous "Kiss me, Hardy" without a flicker of embarrassment; the winding-up, a spirited solo reflection by Emma, is done briskly and without bathos.

In between there are lusty choruses, worthy of a son of a retired naval officer. Just occasionally, in more triumphant mood, they verge on the hailing of a victor *ludorum*, but more often than not, they punctuate and propel carefully paced arias and ensembles.

There are set pieces which one longs to see staged: The Don Giovanni-like ball scene, with its bedouine and underlying disquiet; the climactic conversation piece between Nelson and Hardy and the Hamiltons in Act 2; the embarkation in Act 3. There are sea interludes, too, for the orchestra: they can only be described as such, for something of *Peter Grimes's* sea mist has drifted unavoidably into the pages of this score.

Britain's music also owns the inflections of Nelson's own vocal line, and David Johnston evoked irresistible comparison with the role's creator, Peter Pears. He was supported by a rhapsodic and athletic Emma Hamilton in Christine Bunning, a formidable Mrs Cadogan in Fiona Kimm, and a staunch Hardy in Brian Bannatyne-Scott.

Hilary Finch

Young ones in hot pursuit

THEATRE

The Common Pursuit Phoenix Theatre

Four years ago, Simon Gray's play expired at the Lyric Hammer-smith, having been marked down as an inbred literary comedy featuring a thinly disguised Orwellian group of "verminous little lions" who could only be deciphered by spectators who were in the know.

If so, the world of literary inbreeding must be wider than hitherto supposed, as the play went on to conspicuous success in Los Angeles and New York. Not content with turning the play's fortunes to advantage in two extremely entertaining production diaries (*An Unnatural Pursuit* and *How's That for Telling 'Em, Fat Lady?*) Gray has finally steered it into the West End where, under his own direction, it emerges as a work of mordant brilliance; and a notable addition to his career-long exploration of the relationship between literature and human conduct.

The Common Pursuit follows the lives of six friends from their hopeful Cambridge youth to their heavily compromised middle-age 20 years later. The common pursuit that holds them together is at once the undergraduate magazine of that title (a would-be successor to *Leavis's Scrutiny*), and the decidedly non-Leavisite hunt for sex and fame.

The polar opposites of the group are Stuart, the dedicated editor who sacrifices everything, including parenthood, to the magazine; and Nick, a suicidally chain-smoking hack who winds up at death's door with his own television arts programme. Between these two are Humphry, a homo-



Benefits of a young cast: Stephen Fry, Rik Mayall and John Gordon Sinclair in literary comedy

sexual philosopher with the temperament of a head prefect; Peter, a philandering historian who stumbles into a disastrous marriage, and Martin, who makes up with money for his lack of talent.

The piece develops on two fronts, as a comedy of personal loyalties and betrayals, and as the adventures of an elitist publication in a non-elitist age. Just as Peter preserves the shell of his marriage within a byzantine labyrinth of adulterous lies and alibis, so the magazine survives by taking rudely readable authors on board. In its deepest crisis it is saved at an Arts Council meeting by the reading of one of Nick's muck-raking pieces which the editor had decided to reject.

The plot does not lend itself to summary as it is kept in motion by an endless sequence of reversals, which extend from the structure of

single lines to the main narrative turning points. "I've got to be on my way if I'm going to miss my train" is one minimalist example of how it works. The effect is never artificial because it all goes to confirm Gray's belief in what he calls "old life itself", that malign (and sometimes friendly) joker who can be relied on only to deliver what you least expect.

The Phoenix cast includes three renowned comedians, but what really counts is that the company are all young. I did not see the 1984 version, but there are no great changes in the new text. The revisions consist mainly of comic variations on the original material and new gags — such as the opening submission of a contribution from Leavis himself, prophesying the magazine's instant demise. With older actors, it could still convey a spiteful coterie impression.

There is no danger of that with John Gordon Sinclair bounding in with his latest adulterous rigmarole, or Martin (Paul Mooney) evasively acknowledging that he has impregnated Stuart's girlfriend (Sarah Berger). John Sessions is decidedly under-used as the anxiously furored Stuart. The other performances are superb: Stephen Fry's Humphry, his pompous manner belied by a gentle smile, contemplating the heterosexual mess from his homo-sexual vantage point; and Rik Mayall's show-stopping Nick, a self-destructive rat so deeply in love with himself as to be irresistible, and silencing the opposition with the comic timing and attack of a guillotine. His lungs may be packing up, but look at his wardrobe.

Irving Wardle

At home at work

Fashion The Pit

Doug Lucie's grippingly modern play, welcomed by Irving Wardle last year at its Stratford premiere, offers what some of us never found in *Serious Money*, a hard, clear, panoramic view of infighting and treachery within our ruling classes. Lucie shows his advertising merchants and brand political schemers at work, right enough, but he digs behind all that to discover the inter-penetration of work and home, where lust and ambition fuel one another's flame.

Significantly, the central character, Paul Cash, implacably

agency head of a leading ad agency, no longer bothers to use his home but spends working day, lustful evening and sleeping night within the confines of his office suite. Work is home, and a wretchedly successful creature it has made of him.

From his hi-tech centre of operations, realized in the heartless good taste of Fotini Dimou's black and white set, we watch the progress of his latest campaign as it involves Stuart, once a successful film maker of the Left, but now invited to pull the chain on his

principles and make a propaganda film for the Tories.

In one of the play's sweeter lines Cash explains: "I want to make the sort of film Goebbels, were he alive today, would be making." The dialogue rings with such grammatical marvels, lucidly expressing character and situation, and acted with a rare display of quality ensemble playing by the cast of nine.

In a good production you expect the actors to get their looks and voices right; far less common is what Nick Haman's new direction

gives us, the host of small, apt gestures, not emphasized but locating in each character the complex familiarity of life. The way of cup of coffee can be handed awkwardly high or close to someone we dislike.

Commanding the centre of the play is Brian Cox's Cash. Seldom raising his voice, moving violently only once, when he beats up his rent boy, he is unquestionably the man of power, a dangerous bear contrasting with Stuart's altogether more self-conscious animal — perhaps even a human being — and played masterfully, wittily, by Alan Armstrong. A tense, eschewing evening's theatre.

Jeremy Kingston

Laden leader

JAZZ

Wayne Shorter International, Manchester

As Wayne Shorter starts a brief British tour, one thought keeps coming to mind: how can such a distinguished player, armed with a panoply of state-of-the-art technology, produce such banal music?

The same question was asked last year when he brought his young electric band to the Town & Country Club in London. At that time, most of his old admirers might have given him the benefit of the doubt. These were early days, after all: perhaps the saxophonist needed more time to adjust to life after Weather Report.

A year later, there can be no more doubt. Shorter's new CBS album, *Joy Ride*, shows that he is still preoccupied with keyboard textures and electronic paraphernalia rather than melodic invention. True, his solos still contain moments that any saxophonist would envy. But there are long stretches where the music can hardly be distinguished from the jazz-funk musk that drips from countless pirate radio stations every weekend. While Horne Hancock makes a fleeting guest appearance, Patrice Rushen takes charge of most of the keyboard work, proving that she is a competent artist but no Joe Zawinul.

For the tour, Rushen's place has been taken by Bernard Wright. His contribution, however, was smothered by Terri-Lynn Carrington, a drummer who apes the worst macho tactics of the stadium-rock trade. At the centre of this whirlwind Shorter, however, concentrated on his soprano saxophone, exchanging it only rarely for the tenor. Not that it mattered much, since his tone was distorted by the stacked amplifiers. A watched evening was rounded off by two appropriately inept solos from Carrington and the bassist Kelly Jones.

Of course, no one would expect Shorter to be pursuing the same course as 20 years ago under Art Blakey and Miles Davis. However, in this quest-funk setting, he seems to be evading all the real questions and almost hiding behind the rhythm section. Like Billy Cobham, he has proved a gifted sideman and collaborator, but a very disappointing leader.

Clive Davis



OPENS APRIL 26

Some seats still available for National Pantomime April 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24

LONDON PALLADIUM

هكذا من الأهل

THE WEEK AHEAD



ROCK

ROCHDALE ZULU: Johnny Clegg and his multi-racial South African group Savuka take the English leg of a European tour on Thursday. Born in Rochdale, Clegg emigrated to South Africa aged six. He has spent most of his life there immersing himself in Zulu culture and music, and arriving at a noisy but seamless fusion of rock and township roots. His live shows are uplifting extravaganzas with chanting and tribal dance routines imaginatively adapted to a rock band format. Riverside, Newcastle (091-261 4386).



BOOKS

BROOK ON BROOK: Peter Brook is the greatest theatre director who we have not got. By the age of 21, in 1946, he was already directing at Stratford and London (Sartre's *Huis Clos*). Those who saw his *Lear* with Paul Scofield (1962) or his final production for the RSC, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1970), have the image of theatrical greatness burned in their memory. His latest book, *The Shifting Point: Forty years of theatrical exploration 1946-1987*, is to be published by Methuen on Thursday.



OPERA

EDITA'S REVIVAL: Edita Gruberova, the Czech coloratura soprano, sings her first Lucia at Covent Garden on Friday in Franco Zeffirelli's long-lasting and much revived production of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*. It is a part though that she has performed quite often at the Vienna State Opera, the house where she is most likely to be heard nowadays. Mme. Gruberova has already triumphed at the Royal Opera as Zerbinetta (*Ariadne auf Naxos*) and as Juliette in Bellini's *Capuleti e Montecchi*. Luis Lima is the Edgardo.



CONCERT

LOTS OF PLEASURE: Felicity Lott sings in the opening concert of the second British Library Stefan Zweig Series at Wigmore Hall tomorrow. It is devoted to French items in the Zweig collection of manuscripts now housed in the British Library. The songs are by Fauré, Offenbach and Debussy, including the latter's magnificent Baudelaire settings, and in these Miss Lott will be accompanied by Graham Johnson. In addition Gabriel Woolf will read Baudelaire poetry. Wigmore Hall (01-935 2141), 4pm.



DANCE

BRADFORD BALLET: Patrick Ammand dances Siegfried at the first performance of Natalia Makarova's new production of *Swan Lake* for London Festival Ballet. The production opens in Bradford as part of the drive to build up the restored Alhambra there as a regional centre for dance. Ammand partners two of Festival's young stars: Trinidad Seviliano as Odette and Susan Hogard as Odile. Insider tip: watch for a new treatment of the villain Rothbart. Alhambra Bradford (0274-752000) until April 21, then touring.



FILM

IN THE LIONS' DEN: Daniel Day-Lewis takes a leap into international stardom with his part in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* (18). Philip Kaufman's massive and majestic adaptation of the novel by Milan Kundera (an international best-seller in 1984). He plays Tomas, a skilled surgeon and compulsive ladies' man whose consciousness is gradually stirred by the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. Juliette Binoche and Lena Olin, play the chief women in his life. Empire (01-437 1234), from Friday.

THEATRE LONDON

EASY VIRTUE: Jane How, Ronnie Stevens, Zena Walker, John Michie, directed by Tim Luscombe in Noel Coward's Twenties play about hypocrisy. Transfer from King's Head, Islington. Garrick (01-936 4801). Previews from Wed. Opens Apr 21.

GONE WITH THE WIND 2: Ben Keaton and Carlo Cannon in Keaton's 'adult comedy' of contemporary New York. Institute of Contemporary Arts, (01-930 3647). Opens Tues.

JOURNEY'S END: Jason Connery, Nicky Henson, in R.C. Sherriff's World War One classic. Whitehall (01-930 7765). Previews from Mon. Opens Apr 19.

KING: Charity one-off performance of Martin Smith's musical about Dr Martin Luther King. Prince Edward (01-379 4444). Sun, 7.30pm.

THE LAST RE-RUN: Debbie Arnold as Catwoman in a Batman and Robin adventure. Bloomsbury (01-387 9629). Opens Tues. Until Apr 22.

THE RAGGED TROUSERED PHILANTHROPIST: Stephen Lowe's adaptation from Robert Tresselt's 1914 novel, as seen at Liverpool Playhouse. Theatre Royal, Stratford East (01-834 0310). Previews from Thurs. Opens Apr 18.

OUT OF TOWN

BIRMINGHAM: My Fair Lady: New production of the Lerner and Loewe musical. Hippodrome (021-622 7486). Opens Tues. Until May 7.

BRISTOL: Private Lives: Noel Coward classic. Theatre Royal Old Vic (0272 284388). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

CAMBRIDGE: The Threepenny Opera: Innerkirkling Music-Theatre on tour with the Brecht/Weill show. Arts (0223 352000). Thurs to Apr 16.

GLASGOW: The Mahabharata: Only British dates for Peter Brook's production of "the epic story of mankind", a nine-hour classical Indian poem, presented on stage in three parts. Old Museum of Transport (Box office: 041 227 5511). Opens Wed.

LEEDS: Jane Eyre: Fay Weldon's adaptation of the Charlotte Brontë novel, directed by Helena Kaut-Howson. Playhouse (0532 442111). Opens Thurs.

LEICESTER: Easter: Rare production of Strindberg. Haymarket (0533 539797). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

NEWCASTLE ON TYNE: The Caucasian Chalk Circle: National Youth Theatre, directed by Edward Wilson, in Brecht. Theatre Royal (091 232 3421). Opens Mon.

NOTTINGHAM: Little Shop of Horrors: Lorraine Chase on tour in the Howard Ashman/Alan Menken musical. Theatre Royal (0602 482626). Opens Mon.

FILMS

BELLMAN AND TRUE (15): Entertaining British thriller with psychological overtones, featuring Bernard Hill as the failed hero forced to use his computer skills in a bank robbery. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148), Cannon Park Road (01-930 0631), from Fri.

BERNADETTE (U): Plodding but sincere account of Saint Bernadette of Lourdes. Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279), from Friday.

DEATH WISH 4 - THE CRACKDOWN (18): When his girlfriend's daughter dies of a drug

WORD-WATCHING
Answers from page 24

COMESTOCKERY
(c) Banned censorship, coined by Howard Cosell (1944-1995), the moving idol of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, which advocated banning all literature it deemed too salacious or corrupting.

SMALLUM
(c) In small pieces or quantities. Old English adverb, cf. *illum* little by little.

VACCIMULGENCE
(b) The grand Latinate word for the milking of cows, from the Latin *vaccus* a cow, and *mungere* to milk.

GORE
(a) A low-ranking subordinate who is expected to fetch and carry and "go for" things for his superiors: "Running the robo machine and acting as receptionist, secretary, and general gofer."

RADIO

overdose, Charles Bronson gets out the ammunition and blasts away. Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310), Cannon Pantner Street (01-930 0631), from Fri.

TO MARK THE 80th BIRTHDAY of the conductor Herbert von Karajan (above), Radio 3 is reviving a series of recordings he made in the 1950s with the Philharmonia Orchestra, and which have not been in the record shops since their original release. The first of six programmes comprises Mozart's Symphony No 35, Brahms's Variations on a Theme by Haydn and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 35. Radio 3, Monday, 2.45pm.

MATTHEW ARNOLD: The influential Victorian poet, critic and thinker is reassessed on the centenary of his death in a series of talks. Radio 3, Mon, 7.50pm.

LONDON'S HISTORIC DOCKLANDS & THAMES: meet today, Tower Hill tube, 11.15am, £3 (also next Sat).

HAUNTED LONDON - A GHOST WALK: meet today, Monument tube, 2pm, £3 (also next Sat).

UNDERWORLD LONDON: FAGIN AND FRIENDS: meet today, Museum of London, 2.30pm, £3 (also next Sat).

ON THE TRAIL OF SHERLOCK HOLMES: meet tomorrow, Monument tube, 2.30pm, £3 (also next Sun).

INKS & TAVERNS OF DICKENS & SHAKESPEARE'S LONDON: meet tomorrow, Monument tube, 7.15pm, £3 (also next Sun).

CONCERTO NO 3, MOZART'S Elmer (Kleine Nachtmusik) and Clarinet

WATKINSON/COLS: Besides playing the violin in Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, Andrew Watkinson conducts the City of London Sinfonia in Bach's Brandenburg

CONCERTO: (Jack Brymer, soloist). Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795), cc 01-638 8891. Today, 7.45pm.

BATZ/RPO: The RPO is conducted by Enrique Batiz in Smetana's *Bartered Bride* Overture, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 4. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (02-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

THOMAS/LSC: Michael Tilson Thomas conducts Beethoven's Promethus Overture and Piano Concerto No 3. Barbican Centre, Mon, 7.45pm.

FROM TOKYO: The Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Hiroshi Wakasugi, in Brahms's Symphony No 4, Elgar's Cello Concerto. Barbican Centre, Tues, 7.45pm.

ASHKENAZY/PERLMAN: Vladimir Ashkenazy conducts the RPO in Tchaikovsky's "Married" Symphony. Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

IGOR OISTRAKH: The fine violinist performs Bach's Chaconne BWV 1004 and Ysaie's Sonata Op 27 No 3, then is joined at the piano by Natalia Zertsalova in Beethoven's Sonata Op 96, Chausson's Poème and pieces by Paganini and Khachaturian. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Thurs, 7.45pm.

MACKERRAS MUSIC: The RPO is conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras in Vaughan Williams's *Wessex Overture* and Elgar's "Enigma" Variations. Then the Pro Musica Chorus, Brighton Festival Chorus and Stephen Roberts (baritone) are added for *Belshazzar's Feast* by Walton. Festival Hall, Thurs, 8pm.

LLOYD COLE AND THE COMMOTIONS: Seriously whimsical Glaswegian pop-rockers. Tonight, BECC, Glasgow (041-248 3000); tomorrow, St George's Hall, Bradford (0274 752000); Mon, Sheffield City Hall (0742 735295); Wed, Cornwall Coliseum, St Austell (072-681 4004); Thurs, Poole Arts Centre (0202 685222); Fri, Gloucester Leisure Centre (0452 36789).

LIVING COLOUR: Sharp, black, American heavy rock group led by guitarist Vernon Reid. Tonight, ICA, London SW1 (01-930 3647).

ERASURE: Andy Bell and Vince Clarke, rubbing all over the world. Wed and Thurs, Forum at NEC, Birmingham (021-780 4133); Fri, Guildhall, Preston (0722 58858).

DEF LEPPARD: Return of the hysterical metal pyromaniacs. Tomorrow, BIC, Bournemouth (0202 297297); Mon and Tues, Wembley Arena, Middlesex (01-902 1234); Thurs and Fri, Edinburgh Playhouse (031-657 2590).

ART BLAKEY: The father figure of modern drummers, now pushing 70, brings his Jazz Messengers to town for a fortnight residency. Ronnie Scott's Club, London W1 (01-439 0747) Mon to Sat.

GEORGE MELLY/HUMPHREY LYTTLETON: A rare joint appearance by the raconteurs-cum-broadcasters. Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 291768) Fri.

MANHATTAN TRANSFER: The vocal group are promoting their recent Latin-inspired album. Hammersmith Odeon, London W6 (01-748 4061) Wed, Thurs.

PHOTOGRAPHY
FOTOGRAFIA BUFFA: Staged photography-montage, elaborate visual hoaxes, by group of Dutch photographers. Stills Gallery, 105 High St, Edinburgh (031-557 1140).

SKYLINE: British landscapes. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Rd, London NW3.

ROSE LEVENTON: An enormous installation called *Wake* incorporating a leaden boat and a river of ash. Chisenhale Gallery, London (01-981 4518). From Tuesday.

EDWARD MIDDLEITCH: A career survey of work by the influential teacher and so-called "Kitchen Sink" painter of the 1950s who died last year. Serpentine Gallery, London W2 (01-402 8075). From today.

GIANNI BATTISTA PIRANESI (1720-1778): A series of this Venetian artist's prints depicting Canacci d'Invenzione - imaginary prisons - which are among the most remarkable graphics ever made. Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield (0742 734781). From today.

CLAIR JOY: Recent conceptual paintings based on landscape. Nicola Jacobs Gallery, London W1 (01-437 3868). From Wednesday.

DEPICTING HISTORY: Works in various media by 13 artists exploring current political issues and examining ways in which the past is constantly being reinterpreted. Leeds City Art Gallery (0532 462495). From Thursday.

THE WOMAN HE LOVED: The story of Edward VIII seen through

JAZZ

the eyes of Mrs Simpson, with Jane Seymour and Anthony Andrews. ITV, Tues, 8-10pm.

SOPHIA AND CONSTANCE: First of six-part series based on *The Old Wives' Tales*, with Patricia Routledge and Alfred Burke. BBC2, Wed, 9.25-10.15pm.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: The New Peter Hall production of Strauss's *Salome*. Mon and Tues, 8pm. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1068).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: Nicholas Hynes's *Magic Flute* continues tonight, Wed and Fri at 7pm, with Helen Field and Lesley Garrett. On Tues and Sat April 16 at 7.30pm further performances of *len Judge's* lively revival of *Gav and Peg*. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-638 3161).

OPERA NORTH: Tonight at 7.15pm final Leeds performance of spirited revival of *Katya Kabanova*. Grand Theatre, New Briggate, Leeds (0532-459 351).

BEAUMARIS FESTIVAL: Hungarian theme includes visits by Hungarian cellist Csaba Onczay, and folk group Makving from

Budapest; also medieval dancing and archery displays to mark 800th anniversary of visit to Anglessey by King Edward I. Beaumaris, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey. (0248 810445).

OPERA NORTH AT MANCHESTER: Booking for *Tosca*, *Katya Kabanova*, plus new production of *Fidelio*. 14-16, Palace Street, Manchester (061-236 9922).

LAST CHANCE
A MAN OF OUR TIME: Photographic exhibition of life and works of Michael Tippett. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

BRITANNIA RULES THE STAGES: Drawings of over 50 British composers from John Wynn's witty caricatures for *The Listener*. Ends tomorrow. Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

Theatre: Tony Patrick, Films: Geoff Brown, Concerts: Max Harrison, Opera: Hilary Finch, Rock: David Sinclair, Jazz: Clive Davis, Dance: John Percival, Galleries: David Lee, Photography: Michael Young, Walks: Penny Osborn, Bookings: Anne Whitcomb, Television: John Goding, Radio: Peter Waymark.

BOOKINGS
FIRST CHANCE

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
Continued from facing page

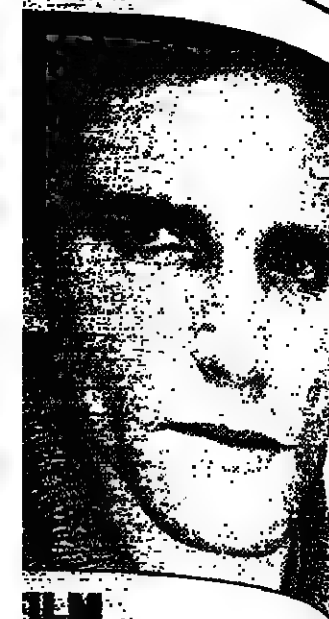
SATURDAY
BBC1 WALES: 6.15pm-6.30pm Sports News. 6.30pm-6.45pm Sports News. 6.45pm-7.00pm Sports News. 7.00pm-7.15pm Sports News. 7.15pm-7.30pm Sports News. 7.30pm-7.45pm Sports News. 7.45pm-8.00pm Sports News. 8.00pm-8.15pm Sports News. 8.15pm-8.30pm Sports News. 8.30pm-8.45pm Sports News. 8.45pm-9.00pm Sports News. 9.00pm-9.15pm Sports News. 9.15pm-9.30pm Sports News. 9.30pm-9.45pm Sports News. 9.45pm-10.00pm Sports News. 10.00pm-10.15pm Sports News. 10.15pm-10.30pm Sports News. 10.30pm-10.45pm Sports News. 10.45pm-11.00pm Sports News. 11.00pm-11.15pm Sports News. 11.15pm-11.30pm Sports News. 11.30pm-11.45pm Sports News. 11.45pm-12.00pm Sports News. 12.00pm-12.15pm Sports News. 12.15pm-12.30pm Sports News. 12.30pm-12.45pm Sports News. 12.45pm-1.00pm Sports News. 1.00pm-1.15pm Sports News. 1.15pm-1.30pm Sports News. 1.30pm-1.45pm Sports News. 1.45pm-1.60pm Sports News. 1.60pm-1.75pm Sports News. 1.75pm-1.90pm Sports News. 1.90pm-2.05pm Sports News. 2.05pm-2.20pm Sports News. 2.20pm-2.35pm 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SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

SUNDAY



The star of *Grand Larceny* (TV, 8pm) is a computerized system operated by a keyboard far superior to the one I'm using to write this. It can answer questions enabling its operator (Marilu Henner, who plays her late father) to follow in his footsteps as a master criminal specializing in stealing back stolen goods for an insurance company. Shot entirely on location on the Côte d'Azur, this is light-hearted, escapist entertainment featuring Omar Sharif, true to type as a rich Arab devoted to a life of fast cars, gambling, racehorses and women. Marilu, playing Fredrica Grand, daughter of the

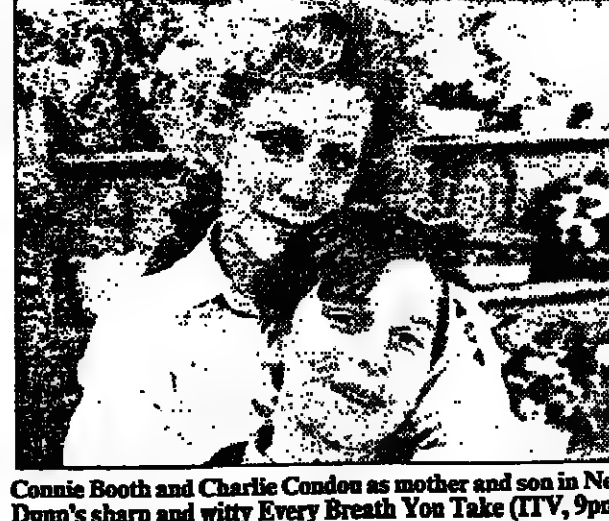
CHOICE

deceased criminal (Louis Jourdan), has first to tackle Omar, whom she believes has stolen a famous racehorse, so that she can return it to the insurance company. Also among the cast is an inscrutable Chinese called Shu Min (or Shoutin, depending which part of the *TV Times* you read) and Ian McShane, as Jourdan's flesh-and-blood right-hand man. The director is Jeannot Szwarc, whose previous credits include *Jaws II* and *Santa Claus the Movie*, guaranteeing a couple of hours of fast-moving holcom.

Ken Gosling



Ian McShane, Marilu Henner and Omar Sharif in the light-hearted, escapist entertainment *Grand Larceny* (TV, 8pm)



Connie Booth and Charlie Condon as mother and son in *Nell Dunn's* sharp and witty *Every Breath You Take* (TV, 9pm)

CHOICE

Nell Dunn's first original television film, *Every Breath You Take* (TV, 9pm) is not, as might be supposed, a drama about asthma. It is about something even more upsetting to a one-parent (or any other) household, if the author is to be believed, and that is diabetes. Connie Booth plays a perfectly level-headed lady, separated, part-owner of a florists, who wants simply to be rich, a good mother and an independent woman. Her son, Tom, aged 13, played by Charlie Condon, aged 15, is a promising chorister who backs horses on the side, but one day

collapses with the symptoms of diabetes, which is confirmed. That this can be quite so shattering — mother loses lover, messes up the flower orders, nearly drowns in bath until son breaks down bath-room door — may raise a few eyebrows. But Nell Dunn, author of the stage play *Steaming*, gives it a sharp, spare, often witty script, and Charlie Condon is a fine young actor — the kind of teenager currently doing particularly well in film and television. If you have an aversion to hypodermics, however, glance away when Tom and his mother learn to manipulate the needle.

K.G.

BBC1

6.45 Open University.
6.55 Saturday Starts Here.
7.00 The Family Tree (r).
7.10 The Family Tree (r).
7.20 The Family Tree (r).
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11.40 The Family Tree (r).
11.50 The Family Tree (r).
12.00 The Family Tree (r).

BBC2

6.50 Open University.
7.00 Network East includes a report from Birmingham's Tower Bridge on the second UK Asian Pop Awards.
7.10 How to Find a Lover. A 40 minutes documentary taking a look at the singles scene in the United States (r).
7.20 Film: Mrs Miniver (1942, b/w) starring Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. A seven Academy Award winning story of an English family living in wartime Britain. Directed by William Wyler.
7.30 Driving Caves of Marble. A documentary about Norway's Lake Gerdal which is fed by a glacial river but has no known outlet (r).
7.40 NewsView with Moira Stuart and Richard Whitmore.
7.50 Talking Heads. 'Naked'. A Review Special in which David Byrne talks about his band's eighth studio album.
7.55 Dance Master Class. The first of a new series that goes behind the scenes in the world of dance to watch in rehearsal directors and performers from the Royal Ballet, the London School of Contemporary Dance and Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet. This programme affords an opportunity to see Sir Frederick Ashton at work with Antonietta Sibley and Anthony Dowell. They rehearse the pas de deux for Tiana and Oberon from Ashton's ballet *The Dream*, first choreographed for them in 1964.
8.00 Film: American Graffiti (1973) starring Richard Dreyfuss and Ronny Howard. A nostalgic look at the early 1960s through the story of four friends in a small California town who get together for a typical night's entertainment on the eve of their departure to college. These diversions include chases, girls and annoying the local police. Directed by George Lucas.
8.10 International Golf. Steve Rider introduces highlights of the United States Masters from Augusta National Golf Club, Georgia. The commentators are Peter Alliss and Tony Jacklin. Ends at 12.40am.
12.40am Weather.

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am.
6.25 Get Fresh. The first of a new series 11-30 Ronny Healy's *The Network Chart Show* (r).
12.00 Wrestling from Fairfield Halls, Croydon.
1.00 News with Trevor McDonald 1.05 LWT News and weather followed by Sains and Greaves previewing cup semifinal day on both sides of the border.
1.35 Film: The Key to Rebecca (1995) starring Gill Robertson, David Scott, Season Hubley and Anthony Cusack. A made-for-television Second World War drama, originally shown as a two-part mini-series, about an Allied intelligence hunt for a Nazi spy codenamed Rebecca. Directed by David Hemmings.
4.35 News.
4.45 Results Service.
5.00 News 5.05 LWT News and weather.
5.10 Walt Disney Presents. Mickey's Fire Brigade. A comedy. Quiz show.
5.15 Connections. Quiz show.
5.45 Saturday Gamp. The first of a new comedy and music series starring Gary Wynn, Hale and Pace and Kate Robbins.
6.15 The Funny Side. A new comedy programme with Mike Smith, Cherry Baker and Mick Miller.
7.00 Catchphrase. Guessing game show presented by Roy Walker. (Oracle)
7.30 The Time of Us. Comedy series about a happily married young couple with oddball outlooks on life (r). (Oracle)
8.00 Grand Larceny. (see Choice)
8.50 News and sport 10.05 LWT News.
10.10 Aspel & Friends. A repeat of Michael Aspel's conversations with Elizabeth Taylor, Joan Collins and Zsa Zsa Gabor.
10.55 Film: Pope John (1984) starring Steve Austin. Comedy about an ill-assorted group of trainee American police officers. Directed by Hugh Wilson.
11.00 News in the Sun.
11.05 Night Network. Includes Emma Freud chatting in bed to Linda Lusardi, and music from Squeeze.
11.20 American College Football. Louisiana State v Georgia.
11.50 ITV Morning News. Ends at 6.00.

CHANNEL 4

8.30 Old Country (r). 10.00 Moneyplain (r).
10.30 Film: The 400 Blows (1959, b/w) starring Jean-Pierre L  aud and Jean-Pierre L  aud. A Busby Berkeley musical directed by Roy Delmeur.
11.10 Film: The Money Men (1986, b/w) starring the Three Stooges as mistaken management men running amok in a Hollywood film studio. Directed by Del Lord.
12.30 Empire Wu. Episode 24 (of 65).
1.00 News. News on the 10.05. A new comedy series starring the Three Stooges as mistaken management men running amok in a Hollywood film studio. Directed by Del Lord.
2.00 The Adventures of Michael Strogoff (1937, b/w) starring Anton Walbrook. The story of a Russian explorer at the time of the Tatar invasions. Directed by George Nichols Jr.
3.35 Film: The Invisible Man (1933, b/w) starring Vincent Price. Drama about a wrongly convicted man who uses invisibility to escape and find the truth about his brother. Directed by Joe May.
5.05 Brookside. (r). (Oracle)
6.00 Carling. The Glaxo World Ladies' Championship from the Glasgow.
7.00 News summary and weather followed by 7.15. Robert Kee reports conversation with the Rev Peter Parkinson of the new Reformed Baptist Church in Leeds who looks after the running of the houses for homeless young people.
7.30 Karajan in Salzburg. A portrait of the conductor filmed during last summer's Salzburg Festival.
8.05 Film on Four Extra: Angel (1982) starring Stephen Rea and Ray McAnally. A thriller about an Irish school teacher who decides to track down by himself the killers of a young music girl he befriended. Directed by Neil Jordan. (Oracle)
10.30 v. Tony Harrison with a reading of his controversial poem (r).
11.30 A TV Dante — Inferno V. A modern version of Dante's Inferno directed by Peter Kosminsky and Tom Phillips (r).
11.50 After Dark. Open-ended discussion on horse-racing in general and the Grand National in particular.

BBC1

6.45 Open University.
6.55 Play School (r). 8.15 The Day from a family's home in Stratford-upon-Avon.
10.00 What on Earth... 10.25 Wildlife quiz (r). 10.35 The Money Men. A new comedy series starring the Three Stooges as mistaken management men running amok in a Hollywood film studio. Directed by Del Lord.
11.20 Greek Language and People. Part three (r). 11.45 People First. The last of four films for parents of mentally handicapped children (r). 12.10 Sign Extra. For the hard-of-hearing (r). 12.35 Farming. Reports from the 1988 season on the 10th of the Ulster farmer 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The Week Next Week. A comedy series about the Labour leadership. Tony Benn is interviewed. 2.00 Eastenders (r). (Ceefax)
3.00 Film: In Which We Serve (1942, b/w) starring John Mills and Noel Coward. A Second World War drama about the crew of the HMS *Argo*. Directed by Noel Coward and David Lean. (Ceefax)
4.50 Briefly. A series of short films. 5.15 Fax. Viewers' questions answered.
5.40 The Animals. A series of short films about the animals of the world. 6.15 Lullaby. The latest chatty news and an appeal by Richard Briers on behalf of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust.
6.25 News and weather.
6.40 Songs of Praise with young Christians at the Pavilions in Birmingham. (Ceefax)
7.15 Film: Breaker Morant (1979) starring Edward Woodward and Jack Thompson. A war film about a group of unjustly court-martialed soldiers. Directed by Bruce Beresford.
8.05 News and weather.
8.20 Life Without George. Comedy series. (Ceefax)
9.00 The Richard Dimbleby Lecture by Sir George Porter, President of the Royal Society and Nobel Prize winner.
10.30 News. News on the 10.05. 11.00 News. News on the 10.05. 11.30 News. News on the 10.05. 11.50 News. News on the 10.05. 12.00 News. News on the 10.05. 12.30 News. News on the 10.05. 12.55 News. News on the 10.05. 1.00 News. News on the 10.05. 1.30 News. News on the 10.05. 1.55 News. News on the 10.05. 2.00 News. News on the 10.05. 2.30 News. News on the 10.05. 2.55 News. News on the 10.05. 3.00 News. News on the 10.05. 3.30 News. News on the 10.05. 3.55 News. News on the 10.05. 4.00 News. News on the 10.05. 4.30 News. News on the 10.05. 4.55 News. News on the 10.05. 5.00 News. News on the 10.05. 5.30 News. News on the 10.05. 5.55 News. News on the 10.05. 6.00 News. News on the 10.05. 6.30 News. News on the 10.05. 6.55 News. News on the 10.05. 7.00 News. News on the 10.05. 7.30 News. News on the 10.05. 7.55 News. News on the 10.05. 8.00 News. News on the 10.05. 8.30 News. News on the 10.05. 8.55 News. News on the 10.05. 9.00 News. News on the 10.05. 9.30 News. 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Hijack drama shifts to Beirut

Anguished pleas of a desperate pilot

The following conversation was monitored yesterday between the Beirut airport control tower and the hijacked Kuwaiti jet as it circled above the city:

Pilot: "Control tower, control tower... can you hear me, can you hear me. Kuwaiti, Kuwaiti. They are forcing me to land. I am the hijacked plane. They are forcing me to land. We are requested to land. If we don't they will shoot us. Please help me. I don't have fuel. Please get me permission to land."

Control tower: "It is not our problem. You are wasting your time. The fuel in Lebanon is polluted. Go away."

Hijacker: "I demand to land immediately or I will cut out your tongue."

Pilot: "They are forcing me to land. We are requested to land. If we don't, they will shoot us."

Syrian military officer (to control tower): "Tell them no way under any circumstances should they try to land."

Hijacker: "I am the hijacker talking. We don't want a confrontation with you. We have members of the Kuwaiti royal family."

Control tower: "Don't get angry... I cannot allow you to land in Beirut."

Hijacker: "I will circle again."

Pilot: "I have a gun pointed at me. Please help me. I don't have fuel. Please get me permission to land. You want us to ditch. One of the Kuwaiti royal family members has a heart problem and wants to talk to the interior minister."

Control tower: "Negative, negative."

First passenger: "I am Anwar Khaled al-Sabah, one of the passengers of the plane. Please allow us to land at the airport."

Second passenger: "My name is Khaled al-Ghabandi, one of the passengers of the plane. The plane has no fuel. We have to land. The passengers are scared. I am speaking on behalf of all the passengers."

Control tower: "You are wasting your time here. If you try to land by force, the plane will be fired on."

Pilot: "A gun is pointed to my head. I request landing permission to land to refuel."

Control tower: "We have been for 14 years under gunfire."

Hijacker: "I shall punish control tower officials if they don't allow us to land. The passengers are all in panic now and many of them are vomiting. Among the passengers is a member of the Kuwaiti ruling family who has a heart condition."

Control tower: "With all due respect to all families, permit

me to say that all the Lebanese suffer heart ailments (from the war). Do not try to talk to me sentimentally."

Hijacker: "We will have to land there by force."

Pilot: "I beg you, I kiss your hand, I beg you again please let me land. I swear I understand all your reasons but I beg you because I have human lives at risk here. I beg you to allow me to land. Please prepare some ambulances. We must land. I'm going to make a forced landing. Prepare the ambulances. Please inform the ministers of justice, interior and public works that we are compelled to land at Beirut airport. There is no other option for us."

Control tower: "There is no chance of landing. You will have to shoulder the responsibility of your action."

Pilot: "If you fail to clear the runways within a few minutes, we will land in the sea."

Hijacker: "We hold you, the interior minister, the public works minister and the justice minister, total responsibility for the lives of the passengers."

Hijacker: "You are responsible for the passengers because you hijacked them."

Hijacker: "We will crash-land and whatever happens will happen you will bear the responsibility."

Pilot: "Within minutes if the airport is not open, we will crash."

Tears of relief as Britons recount their terror ordeal

Continued from page 1

would make her view life in a different way. "I think I will value what is important and stop worrying about trivial things."

Mr Carew-Jones said that when the aircraft landed on one knee where they were. "Frankly, I was very worried about the plane being stormed by the SAS. I was trying to work out where to go if they came through a door, should I dive under the seat or what would be best? When I realised we were in Iran I felt more relieved. It was less likely that they would start shooting."

Asked if people should negotiate with terrorists he said: "I am a bit biased. I don't think you can give in to the prospects of these ten terrorists emerging free after doing this thing and going round the world perhaps doing it again."

All the same I was hoping for some kind of compromise."

Mr Mark Appleby, aged 23, from Bristol travelling with his sister, Nicola, aged 23, after a holiday in Bangkok said that when the hijack started he first thought that a drunk had attacked one of the stewards.

"They were struggling directly where I was sitting. Then I saw the man had a gun and that I was pointing at my stomach. They fell on top of me and the gun then fell against Nicola. The man was overpowered but then some more terrorists came dashing down the plane and took over. They said: 'Stop. If you move we will kill you.' We got pretty anxious then."

The terrorists then moved all the passengers around the aircraft. Mr Appleby said: "I met one man, a Kuwaiti who complained to me that this was the second flight he had

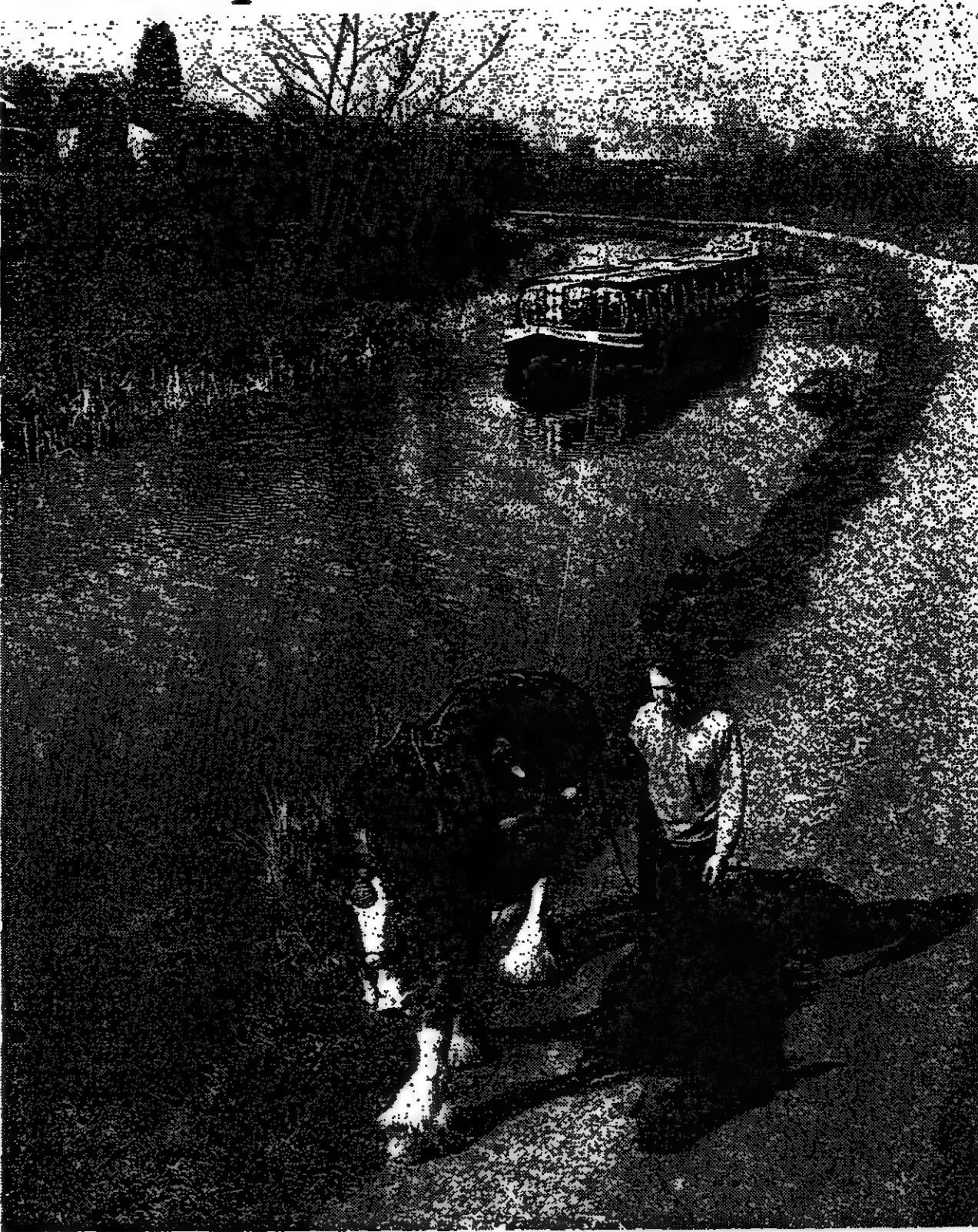
had on Kuwaiti airlines and the second time he had been hijacked. He's still up there."

Miss Elaine McIntosh, aged 20, an arts student from the Isle of Wight, embraced her father, John, and said: "I am a very tired, this has put me off travelling for a long while, but I feel great to be home."

Her boyfriend, Mr Scott Stowell, aged 23, commercial photographer from the Isle of Wight, added: "I would just like to say that I hope the other passengers come out of this as well as we have. I really know what they are going through."

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, welcomed the freed hostages at Heathrow. She said there was great relief that "the Brits were back" but she was very concerned about the other 35 passengers.

Horse power aids tourist drive



Duke, the plodding workhorse, pulling a large packed with trippers along the Grand Western Canal at Tiverton in Devon yesterday. Two horse-drawn barges will make daily two-hour cruises during the summer and are already proving popular.

Powerful sword hanging over Kuwait

From Robert Fisk Kuwait

The gunmen on board the hijacked Kuwaiti jet are holding a more important group of passengers than was at first revealed. It now turns out that not only are three members of the ruling Kuwaiti al-Sabah family on the aircraft, but the hijackers are also holding men from three of the country's leading and wealthiest merchant families.

Three passengers from the

al-Badr, Qabandi and Muteiri families — among the Sunni Muslim commercial backbone of Kuwait — are known to be among the captives.

Furthermore, Fadel Khaled al-Sabah, who is from the Emir's own large family, turns out to be the brother of the fourth most important officer in the Kuwaiti Army.

The hijackers are thus holding an immensely powerful sword over Kuwait's rulers; their every action since taking

over the jet on Tuesday suggests that Kuwait is the sole target of their animosity.

Indeed, British officials in the Middle East were stunned at the way in which the 22 British captives were released so early in the drama.

At one point yesterday the Kuwaiti security services feared the gunmen might fly the Boeing 747 airliner to Kuwait, perhaps threatening even to crash the jet on to the Emir's palace.

It is now clear that the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) Shia Muslim movement in Lebanon — and, in particular, the Islamic Jihad group which holds at least two American hostages and possibly Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, as well — played a leading role in the affair.

At least two of the gunmen are believed to be Shia Muslims from Beirut.

Afghan peace deal is ready for signing

Continued from page 1

The announcement followed statements on Thursday by the Soviet, Afghan and Pakistani leaders that obstacles to the accord had been removed. Negotiations had bogged down recently over a superpower dispute over the supply of military aid to their allies, but that appeared to have been resolved.

Moscow sent troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 to bolster a Marxist government, but Soviet involvement became costly economically and diplomatically. Since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in March 1985, he has displayed increasing eagerness to staunch what he called a "bleeding wound".

The Cordover announcement left unclear whether the Soviet Union and the United States would continue to supply military aid to their allies, but he said he was sure all sides would show restraint.

The agreement's non-interference provisions had originally been understood to bar arms supplies at least to the rebels, if not to the Afghan Government. But Washington refused to cut its military aid to the guerrillas unless Moscow, in symmetry, also stopped supplying Kabul.

A separate formal statement by Secretary Cordover appeared to meet Pakistan's request for agreement in principle to form a new Afghan Government.

"It has been consistently recognized that the objective of a comprehensive settlement implies the broadest support and immediate participation of all segments of the Afghan people and that this can best be ensured by a broad-based Afghan Government."

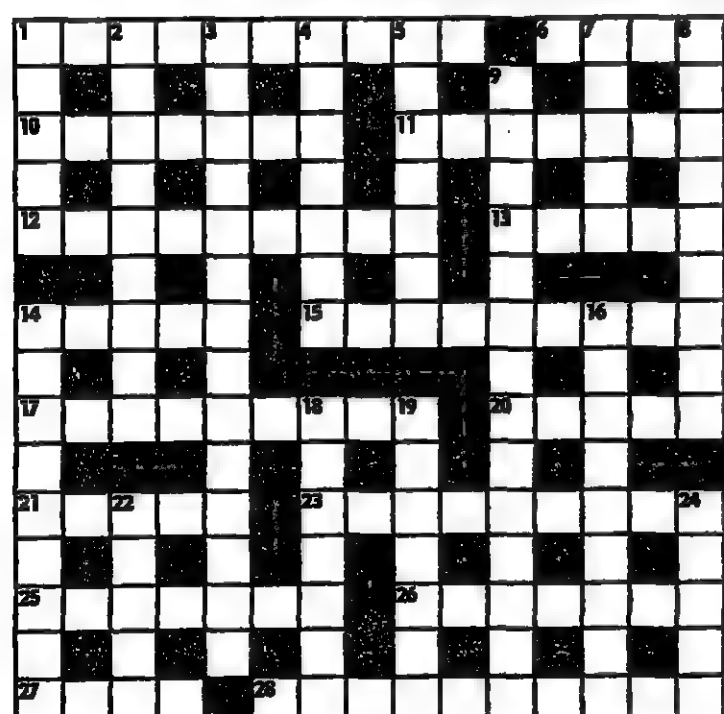
Only Afghans could decide their future government, he added.

● **SANTA BARBARA:** The White House expressed delight at the peace agreement and said the chances were good that Washington would join Moscow in backing it. But the White House Chief of Staff, Mr Howard Baker, said the Administration would withhold a final judgement until it had received formal notification of Moscow's plan to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

● **MOSCOW:** The Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, confirmed that Soviet troops would begin leaving Afghanistan on May 15, but claimed the pullout was not a present to President Reagan "on the eve of the Moscow summit" (AP report). Mr Reagan is to visit Moscow from May 29 to June 2 for his fourth summit.

Hamming images, page 5

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,639



- ACROSS**
- Figure of a child has moved me to show up (3,2,5).
 - Bath the setting for this opera? (4).
 - Characteristic noise heard from car that's exchanged (5-2).
 - Some hundred Germans aboard this boat (7).
 - Not straight — future too unsettled (3,2,4).
 - Get out of bed about noon and wash (5).
 - Transport firm has a lot of pain (5).
 - Execute Duke — His Grace has misbehaved (9).
 - Appropriate animals to see how the land lies (4,5).
 - You can carve with this provided the joint's almost round (5).
 - Called me in and relaxed (5).
 - Profit from backing book about light (9).
 - Broadcast from Russia about retrogressive university (7).
 - Difficult week in a hospital room (7).
 - By the sound of it, is familiar with the organ (4).
- DOWN**
- Reds salute uncommonly scarlet woman (10).
 - Shout at kinkajou (5).
 - Someone's admired joint of meat found on the breakfast table (5-4).
 - Before long shoes do say feet wrong (3,2,4).
 - Old part of the country without an underhand organization (7).
 - Finish up in service — such folly! (7).
 - Barrel, perhaps, not originally for mounting a horse (5).
 - In school, at all times keep going (9).
 - Ring is blue (4,3,7).
 - Clear out of copper — bronze demand about right (3,3,3).
 - Say again and again bond is up in value (9).
 - Upset queen, embracing priest, went too far (7).
 - Smarty-boots was nearly dumped in a barrow (4-3).
 - Chap needing a great deal (5).
 - Movements at sea — i.e., when the bottom surfaces (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,639

ACROSS

- CHILD
- BATH
- CLUNK
- BOAT
- NOT
- GET
- PAIN
- EXECUTE
- LAND
- CARVE
- CALL
- PROFIT
- BROADCAST
- DIFFICULT
- BY

DOWN

- RED
- SHOUT
- JOINT
- BEFORE
- OLD
- FINISH
- BARREL
- SCHOOL
- RING
- CLEAR
- SAY
- UPSET
- SMARTY
- CHAP
- MOVEMENTS

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

COMSTOCKERY

a. Mobile ship's chandler's

b. Bloody-unconscious

c. Bewildering

d. Smallness

e. A minor chimney

f. A spotted leaden

g. In small places

h. A smallness

i. A smallness

j. A smallness

k. A smallness

l. A smallness

m. A smallness

n. A smallness

o. A smallness

p. A smallness

q. A smallness

r. A smallness

s. A smallness

t. A smallness

u. A smallness

v. A smallness

w. A smallness

x. A smallness

y. A smallness

z. A smallness

WEATHER: Northern Scotland will start dry with some bright or sunny spells, although it will soon become cloudy with rain and snow showers. Winds will be strong. The rest of Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England, apart from the extreme south-west, will have a fine day with sunny periods. South-west England will be cloudy and there may be a little light rain. Outlook: Mainly dry with sunny intervals, although northern Scotland may be showery.

ABROAD		AROUND BRITAIN	
City	Temp	City	Temp
Algeria	17-23	Cardiff	10-15
Alexandria	22-28	Edinburgh	10-15
Athens	22-28	Glasgow	10-15
Bombay	27-33	London	12-18
Buenos Aires	22-28	Manchester	12-18
Cairo	22-28	Newcastle	12-18
Calcutta	27-33	Nottingham	12-18
Colon	27-33	Sheffield	12-18
Hong Kong	27-33	Sunderland	12-18
Madras	27-33	Swansea	12-18
Mumbai	27-33	Torquay	12-18
Panama	27-33	Weymouth	12-18
Rangoon	27-33	Wolverhampton	12-18
Singapore	27-33	Wrexham	12-18
Tokyo	27-33		

TODAY		TOMORROW	
City	Temp	City	Temp
Algeria	17-23	Cardiff	10-15
Alexandria	22-28	Edinburgh	10-15
Athens	22-28	Glasgow	10-15
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Rangoon	27-33	Wolverhampton	12-18
Singapore	27-33	Wrexham	12-18
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AM		PM	
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PART 2
SATURDAY APRIL 9 1988

Executive Editor
David Brewster

STOCK MARKETS

FT 90 Share 103.4 (+1.0)
FT 100 108.7 (+1.0)
Brent Crude 15.21 (+0.01)
US\$ (Dated) 1.52 (+0.01)
THE POUND
US\$ 1.52 (+0.01)
German Mark 1.52 (+0.01)
Deutsche Mark 1.52 (+0.01)

Staley set to fight Tate bid
By Cliff Feltham
The & Lyle, the major shareholder in Tate & Lyle, is expected to fight the takeover bid by the Tate & Lyle group. The bid is for 100% of the company. The Tate & Lyle group is a major player in the sugar market. The bid is expected to be announced in the next few days.

BBK plunges
Shares in Brown Boveri & Cie (BBC) have plunged in value since the company announced that it was to be taken over by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). The shares fell from 100p to 50p in a matter of days.

STOCK MARKETS

New York: 103.4 (+1.0)
London: 108.7 (+1.0)
Brent Crude: 15.21 (+0.01)
US\$ (Dated): 1.52 (+0.01)
THE POUND
US\$ 1.52 (+0.01)
German Mark 1.52 (+0.01)
Deutsche Mark 1.52 (+0.01)

MARK PRICE CHANGES

Gold: 1,250.00
Silver: 15.00
Platinum: 1,000.00
Palladium: 1,500.00
Rhodium: 2,000.00
Iridium: 3,000.00
Osmium: 4,000.00
Copper: 1.50
Zinc: 1.20
Nickel: 1.10
Lead: 1.00
Tin: 1.20
Aluminum: 1.50
Iron: 1.00
Steel: 1.00
Coal: 1.00
Oil: 1.00
Gas: 1.00
Electricity: 1.00
Water: 1.00
Telecom: 1.00
Transport: 1.00
Insurance: 1.00
Banking: 1.00
Real Estate: 1.00
Commodities: 1.00
Services: 1.00
Miscellaneous: 1.00

INTEREST RATES

Bank of England: 10.00
US Federal Reserve: 10.00
European Central Bank: 10.00
Japanese Bank of Japan: 10.00
Swiss National Bank: 10.00
Dutch Central Bank: 10.00
French Central Bank:

Tate aims for a larger slice of US sweetener market

By Cliff Feltham

Tate and Lyle, which is bidding £709 million for Staley Continental, has not disguised its interest in the US company whose shares have moved up steadily from the \$18-level since last November.

American arbitrageurs, anticipating a bid, have already picked up a significant holding in the company.

Mr Neil Shaw, the Tate chairman, said he thought it was unlikely another bidder would emerge. "We have a strong presence in the United States and are heavily involved in the agricultural industry. We have a good track record. This deal makes sense."

Staley is a leading supplier of corn syrups — widely used as a sweetener in the soft drinks market — and would provide another important leg for Tate's existing interests in beet sugar and cane sugar, enabling it to compete in all areas of the North American sweetener market.

Corn sweeteners account for 65 per cent of all non-diet sweeteners used in the United States by food and drink manufacturers and 95 per cent of sweeteners used in non-diet soft drinks.

Tate would not keep Staley's food distribution business which has been built up over the last three years and could fetch about \$500 million, according to Mr Shaw.

Tate, Staley and a Belgian company are already involved



Looking West: Neil Shaw reflects on US expansion plans (Photograph: James Morgan)

in CST Group, one of Europe's largest producers of sweeteners from corn and wheat.

Last year Staley made a pretax profit of \$92 million of which two-thirds comes from the corn operations. But Tate is critical of its recent performance, particularly the lavish overheads enjoyed by executives.

Mr Shaw said Staley had

suggested that Tate take a significant stake of up to 20 per cent in the business but then allowed the talks to lapse.

Mr Shaw was highly critical of what he described as "the web of entrenchment devices" which Staley has woven around itself — alleging golden parachute contracts to Mr Donald Nordlund, the chairman, and four other executives worth \$43 million.

Tate has launched a lawsuit

in Delaware, attempting to throw out the scheme which could cost a total of more than \$100 million.

In addition to preference holders who are being asked to back Tate's \$208 million cash call on the basis of three new units for every one ordinary share held, Chase Manhattan Bank is providing standby loan facilities of up to \$1,300 million.

Time for investors to think of putting a toe in the water

The score in the Sterling-Mark Mixed Singles is now 30-all. Margaret Thatcher has won her points with a typical backhand smash that left the Commons crowd gasping, and a cross-court volley that struck her opponent in a sensitive part of his anatomy. Nigel Lawson has twice come from behind with two breathtaking lobs from the base line. The City can talk of nothing else.

Yesterday's second half-point cut since the Budget means bank base rates, now 8 per cent, are at their lowest since 1978. It also means that in their confusion — no expert as far as I know expected lower interest rates yesterday — the smoothies have even more reason to contradict each other. Disagreements are what make markets and should therefore not be despised.

The argument against another quick base rate cut was that cheaper money would provide extra fuel for rising retail spending, and do nothing to diminish the rate at which average earnings are advancing. More credit and more pay, coupled with the Budget benefits, spell more spending on imported goods and thus more pressure on an already deteriorating current balance of payments account.

The argument for lower base rates is two-fold: to help keep soaring sterling under control (an "uncompetitive" pound via falling exports also puts pressure on the balance of payments), and to make a positive gesture in advance of next week's meeting in Washington of the Group of Seven finance ministers, where exchange rate stability and the critical issue of the health of the dollar are on the agenda. The last time they met was three weeks before world stock markets crashed on October 19-20, but I think it unlikely that history is about to repeat itself.



KENNETH FLEET

The G7 (US, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada) meeting has already had a marked effect on the markets, if for an apparently fictitious reason. A report out of Japan that the meeting would agree a support level of ¥125 for the dollar, later strenuously denied, sent Wall Street into a paroxysm of delight. On Wednesday the Dow Jones industrial average surged 64.16 points to 2,061.67 in rising volume. Apart from its doubtful origin this sudden climb is not altogether to be trusted. But it does indicate how Wall Street can turn on the dollar. Nothing that you would call a policy initiative directed at the twin deficits (budget and trade) will be taken before the next President is installed in the White House — and maybe not then.

Wall Street will not unequivocally shed its bearish feelings as long as it senses that a lower dollar and higher interest rates may be necessary to improve the trade balance and finance the deficit. The same cannot be said of Japan where on Thursday the Tokyo market went above the high of October 14, just five days before the crash. Again if you are superstitious you can argue that Tokyo has now made a "charismatic" classic double top and Thursday's peak presages a big fall.

I am not superstitious, though I suspect not even the Tokyo market can sustain its upward momentum. I take

heart from three simple truths about Japan: they have the strongest economy, which is working well to the greater profit of Japanese corporations; they have released, as from April 1, a new source of funds for stock market investment by removing, with appropriate exceptions (the aged, disabled and single mothers), tax relief from small savings; and they manage their market for maximum satisfaction. It is a blend of Oriental magic that foreign investors who deserted Tokyo in droves after October are again finding irresistible.

The London market still lacks conviction and is prey to the prevailing overseas winds. It has become an overwhelmingly institutional market in which trading in stocks is more important than investing in companies. Fund managers as a breed are not men of courage and vision, or if they are they like to feel they all share the same vision and exhibit the same courage on the same day. That way no one can be accused of getting it wrong.

It is not a very satisfactory market at present, and as regular readers will know I have consistently advised caution. The encouraging facts are that UK Ltd is in good nick, and the equity market is certainly not now overvalued, except on the "end of the world is nigh" view.

As I wrote last Saturday, 1,720-1,750 on the FT-SE index looks like a basement; during the week this was tested and held. It is worth remembering the Rothschild dictum that you do not make money waiting to sell within 10 per cent of the peak or to buy within 10 per cent of the bottom.

You should be thinking about putting a toe in the water. Next week I might be rash enough to suggest a few places you might wriggle it!

Oil reserves up by 8% at Shell Group

The Royal Dutch/Shell Group found nearly twice as much oil as it produced last year, but ran down its gas reserves.

Its 1987 annual report, published yesterday, revealed that group oil reserves at the end of 1987 amounted to 8,400 million barrels — 630 million barrels (8 per cent) more than at the end of 1986, despite net production of 644 million barrels (1.77 million barrels per day).

Group gas reserves, in contrast, were run down by nearly 1,000 billion cubic feet (BCF) during the period to 39,000 BCF after production of 2,400 BCF.

British Petroleum's annual report shows that it, too, succeeded in increasing its reserves of oil, by a net 350 million barrels (7 per cent) to 5,000 million barrels.

Stormgard diversifies with £6.7m takeover

By Alison Eadie

Stormgard, the women's fashion and knitwear group, has continued diversifying into specialist market businesses by acquiring Hydro Dynamic Products for a cost of up to £6.7 million.

HDP manufactures and distributes cleaning materials and supplies for the printing and publishing industry. In the year to end-June, HDP made pretax profits, before non-recurring expenses, of £550,000 on a turnover of £3.38 million. Profits in the six months to the end of December were £325,000 on sales of £1.75 million.

An initial payment of £3.3 million will be made through the issue of new shares, which are being offered to existing shareholders on a one-for-four basis.

The payment will be topped

up by a maximum £3.4 million, depending on the level of profits in the years to the end of June, 1990.

The year to end-March was one of reorganization and rationalization for Stormgard. Borrowings were reduced to £4.5 million at March 31, from more than £10 million at the end of March, 1987.

The accessories division had serious production problems in the first half, which were only overcome after substantial management involvement. In fashion, the new collections prepared by Garline were well received, but because of the need to clear old stock, the benefits will only emerge this year.

The 33 million new shares being issued represent 51 per cent of the existing equity.

Terry & Sons assurance on resale pricing

Joseph Terry & Sons, the confectionery maker, has given an assurance to Sir Gordon Borrie, the director-general of Fair Trading, that it will not in future attempt to maintain minimum resale prices for its products.

The assurance comes after complaints to the Office of Fair Trading by Nurdin & Peacock, the cash-and-carry operator. Nurdin had complained that Terry had threatened to withdraw bonuses if two of Terry's boxed chocolate lines — the 1lb versions of All Gold and Moonlight — were sold below specified prices.

Terry has agreed to write to its dealers saying they are free to sell its goods at whatever price they choose.

However, it reminds dealers that it has rights to prevent them selling as loss-leaders.

Opec under pressure to cut production

By Colin Narborough

Oil ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, meeting in Vienna today, are under pressure to try to regain control of world prices, after the latest figures show members have overshot their self-imposed production limit.

Prices are currently hovering around the \$15 (£8.03) a barrel mark, well below the \$18 average price Opec wanted to achieve.

The meeting of Opec's five-member price-monitoring committee, which takes place as oversupply continues to dog the market and depress prices, could call an emergency meeting of all 13 member countries to decide on production cuts.

But this option was firmly ruled out on the eve of the talks by Opec officials, and Mr Ghanjar Kartasmita, the

Indonesian oil minister, who foresaw no policy changes at all emerging this weekend.

Statistics issued yesterday by the International Energy Agency, based in Paris, showed estimated Opec crude oil production averaging 17.6 million barrels per day last month, compared with 17.4 million the previous month.

It noted that the 12 Opec countries with agreed quotas — Iraq remains outside the accord — pumped some 15.2 million barrels daily, exceeding their 15.06 million target.

IEA attributed the overshoot mainly to increased output by Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

But the Iranian oil minister, Mr Gholamreza Agazadeh, said this week accused Saudi Arabia — backed by the United States — of deliberately wrecking the oil market, and issued

an appeal to Opec members to stick to their quotas.

With the Iran-Iraq war still raging, and other political issues dividing the Opec ranks, the price committee is by no means guaranteed to reach consensus.

The committee, comprising ministers from Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Algeria, Nigeria and Venezuela, is faced with the problem that oil prices are signalling the need for urgent action, while key Opec members appear not to want a full ministerial meeting until the next scheduled conference in June.

Failing to restore market confidence in Opec's ability to rein back output, is likely to result in oil prices being marked down still further, putting increased pressure on Opec.

Large world stocks of oil, plus the mild winter in the northern hemisphere, have pushed prices down, forcing producers to give substantial discounts on the \$18 price.

Despite the reluctance for any serious movement before the summer, market talk has suggested co-ordinated output cuts by Opec and non-Opec members.

But Mr Kartasmita, commenting on last December's price and output, said he did not think the ministers would decide anything. "We are here to review the oil market situation," he said.

His words were reinforced by reports from Saudi Arabia that King Fahd had issued a personal appeal to all oil producers to support the \$18 price.

TEMPUS

Overheads discipline puts heart back into Brown Boveri Kent

There is nothing like revealing poor results on a Friday afternoon to sidestep the more acrimonious comments which are the inevitable consequence of reporting figures 35 per cent below the previous year and well below market expectations.

But Brown Boveri Kent has not lost heart, and sees its problems as a thing of the past.

Securing contracts at suicidal margins in the competitive site services market had a devastating effect on profits in the control systems division. This activity has, however, now been severely curtailed, so its divisional sales should account for 20 per cent of the group total this year, compared with 27 per cent last year.

The slack will be taken up by the water meters business, which was the best performer in 1987, accounting for 28 per cent of sales and set to rise to 35 per cent in 1988.

Tighter disciplines have been implemented in both the general management of the group and, more specifically, on the overheads side. The benefits should come through this year, taking profits back to the levels enjoyed in 1986.

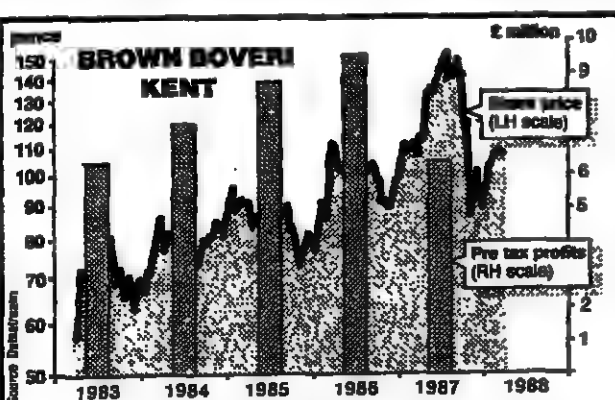
Currencies remain a risk, however, with the use of year-end rates having knocked at least £1 million off 1987 pretax profits.

The controlling holding by ABB Asea Brown Boveri, the European company, protects this group from a hostile takeover. But even this relatively benevolent parent may tire of the group if its performance continues to lag. Meanwhile, yesterday's share price fall takes most of the current uncertainty on board.

S Jerome

S Jerome, the Yorkshire textiles and electronics group which reported strong preliminary results, looks set for another record year this year.

After a 61 per cent jump in pretax profits last year to £2.1 million on turnover of £24 million, analysts are looking for a further rise of about 20



per cent this year, to £2.5 million.

Although it has successfully broken into the market for electronic security and communications equipment, Jerome remains primarily a spinning and weaving company, deriving 80 per cent of its turnover and 90 per cent of its profits from textiles.

Last year, the yarn dyeing division saw the installation of new high-tech colour matching equipment which reads colours, optically for colour matching and produces computerized dye recipes. Practically all coloured yarns are dyed to the customers' orders and Jerome stocks only white yarns in bulk.

The weaving side, which supplies cloth to "makers-up" for many high street stores, including Marks and Spencer, C&A and Burton, has benefited from a trend towards a smarter appearance, especially among men. Its cloth is used in the manufacture of men's and women's suits and casual wear.

After spending £2.7 million on new capital investment during the last five years, Jerome is planning to spend another £2 million this year — all of it on the textiles side. Fourteen new Sulzer weaving machines were delivered last week at a cost of nearly £1 million.

Meanwhile, the whole of its yarn manufacturing division has been running at maximum capacity and new spinning machines are scheduled for delivery at the end of this month.

The worst spinning activ-

ities are being relocated in Kighley, West Yorkshire, where the group has taken possession of a single storey building of 100,000 square feet and the new facilities should be in full production in July.

According to analysts, earnings per share could rise by 14 per cent to 27.9p, putting the shares on a prospective multiple of eight. The modest rating, combined with a prospective yield of 4.2, makes the shares attractive.

The overseas traders sector is becoming something of an anachronism. Its principle players could slip unnoticed into the growing "conglomerates" classification.

Given the constituent companies' broad range of activities and geographical spread, it is becoming increasingly difficult to use general factors to predict sector performance.

The sector's volatile performance over the last six months highlights this dilemma.

Its exposure to currency movements and regions affected by the United States economy meant the sector fared badly in October's market crash. It was one of the worst performers by the year end.

Since then it has leapt back into favour, winning one of the top performing spots. This was partly a corrective move, as the sector had been marked

down rather indiscriminately. A more telling factor was the rash of stories on the stocks themselves.

A rising gold price pushed Lornbro higher while firmer palm oil prices underpinned Harrison & Crosfield's shares. Now the pendulum has swung too far the other way, or so says Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker.

In its quarterly review of the sector, which also previews company results, BZW says that the relatively strong performance likely to surround the reporting season will provide a perfect opportunity to lighten holdings.

The broker does not overlook each company's strengths, but stresses that the overview on currencies and economies should not be forgotten.

While acknowledging that talk of doom and gloom in the aftermath of the crash was overdone, the BZW analysis points out that the rate of growth in the countries and industries important to the overseas traders will seem poor, compared with 1987.

BZW says that although companies using year-end exchange rates were hit when sterling appreciated in the final quarter, average rate translators will be affected this year. Thus the currency factor has not gone away, either.

On the demand front, some commodities have been better performers, albeit from a low base, but cocoa and coffee have remained depressed while tea has marked time.

BZW considers the sector to be about 10 per cent too high. Lornbro and Harrison & Crosfield are on the "sell" list, as both shares are thought to be up with events, while Inchcape is rated no more than a hold.

Polly Peck is the only one of the majors to justify a "buy" recommendation, but one suspects this is because the prospective p/e is less than six times earnings.

Whatever happens, this sector is one worth watching over the next few months, as it should provide keen trading opportunities.



First the bad news.

If you are a private client of a well-known firm of stockbrokers, and have recently received a letter informing you (rather curtly we felt) that they are no longer prepared to act for you, you may be feeling rather unloved.

Now the good news.

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Please note that we do not offer a dealing service.

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Member of the Stock Exchange

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Japan's attempt to
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trade law.

GRADED OPTIONS

Option	Strike	Call	Put
BSX	100	1.20	1.10
BSX	110	1.10	1.20
BSX	120	1.00	1.30
BSX	130	0.90	1.40
BSX	140	0.80	1.50
BSX	150	0.70	1.60
BSX	160	0.60	1.70
BSX	170	0.50	1.80
BSX	180	0.40	1.90
BSX	190	0.30	2.00
BSX	200	0.20	2.10
BSX	210	0.10	2.20
BSX	220	0.05	2.30
BSX	230	0.02	2.40
BSX	240	0.01	2.50
BSX	250	0.00	2.60
BSX	260	0.00	2.70
BSX	270	0.00	2.80
BSX	280	0.00	2.90
BSX	290	0.00	3.00
BSX	300	0.00	3.10
BSX	310	0.00	3.20
BSX	320	0.00	3.30
BSX	330	0.00	3.40
BSX	340	0.00	3.50
BSX	350	0.00	3.60
BSX	360	0.00	3.70
BSX	370	0.00	3.80
BSX	380	0.00	3.90
BSX	390	0.00	4.00
BSX	400	0.00	4.10
BSX	410	0.00	4.20
BSX	420	0.00	4.30
BSX	430	0.00	4.40
BSX	440	0.00	4.50
BSX	450	0.00	4.60
BSX	460	0.00	4.70
BSX	470	0.00	4.80
BSX	480	0.00	4.90
BSX	490	0.00	5.00
BSX	500	0.00	5.10
BSX	510	0.00	5.20
BSX	520	0.00	5.30
BSX	530	0.00	5.40
BSX	540	0.00	5.50
BSX	550	0.00	5.60
BSX	560	0.00	5.70
BSX	570	0.00	5.80
BSX	580	0.00	5.90
BSX	590	0.00	6.00
BSX	600	0.00	6.10
BSX	610	0.00	6.20
BSX	620	0.00	6.30
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BSX	640	0.00	6.50
BSX	650	0.00	6.60
BSX	660	0.00	6.70
BSX	670	0.00	6.80
BSX	680	0.00	6.90
BSX	690	0.00	7.00
BSX	700	0.00	7.10
BSX	710	0.00	7.20
BSX	720	0.00	7.30
BSX	730	0.00	7.40
BSX	740	0.00	7.50
BSX	750	0.00	7.60
BSX	760	0.00	7.70
BSX	770	0.00	7.80
BSX	780	0.00	7.90
BSX	790	0.00	8.00
BSX	800	0.00	8.10
BSX	810	0.00	8.20
BSX	820	0.00	8.30
BSX	830	0.00	8.40
BSX	840	0.00	8.50
BSX	850	0.00	8.60
BSX	860	0.00	8.70
BSX	870	0.00	8.80
BSX	880	0.00	8.90
BSX	890	0.00	9.00</

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Leads for the week with Japan

ask precisely what we want," he said. He demanded an immediate commitment to assure the European construction industry that it would be able to bid for Japanese projects on an equal basis.

Japan's attempt to shift the source of economic growth from exports to domestic demand is generating a big boom in the construction sector.

Projects include the new national airport development near Osaka, which US and European construction companies are eager to share.

Mr de Clercq said that in addition to excluding Japanese domestic market, such bilateral trade agreements would be a violation of the spirit of international free trade.

Bilateral trade agreements, he said, would be seriously undermined by the 1986 US-Japanese bilateral trade agreement on semiconductor trade law.

Washington and Tokyo were severely embarrassed last month after GATT declared the 1986 US-Japanese bilateral trade agreement on semiconductor trade law a violation of international trade law.

GRADED OPTIONS

Symbol	Call	Put
1000	1000	1000
1001	1001	1001
1002	1002	1002
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from the close of business on April 1988 and notice. TSB Bank decreased from 8.00% to 8.00%

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If you own eight or more shares, you have a claim to a share of the total weekly dividend. Follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Claim rates appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price	Dividend	%
1	James G. (a)	Drugs/Pharm	1.10	0.05	4.5
2	James G. (a)	Drugs/Pharm	1.10	0.05	4.5
3	James G. (a)	Drugs/Pharm	1.10	0.05	4.5
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66	James G. (a)	Drugs/Pharm	1.10	0.05	4.5
67	James G. (a)	Drugs/Pharm	1.10	0.05	4.5

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

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FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

Hope on the way

The cut in bank lending rates yesterday by a further half point to 8 per cent makes it almost certain that those banks and building societies that have not yet cut their rates in response to the last half-point cut in Budget week will now move.

For instance, Abbey National, whose rate is still 10.1, says the rate is under active review.

The Halifax, which was the first building society to announce a cut for new borrowers but held back from announcing a new rate for existing borrowers, said yesterday that they would get a reduction to 9.7 per cent or perhaps an even lower rate from May 1.

There can be disappointments in pursuing the cheapest mortgage available. Paul Murphy has just completed a commission in the Army and is moving from Harrogate, North Yorkshire, to Nottingham to take up a job with a financial services company.

Paul, 31, and his wife Fiona, 27, an economics and government lecturer, wanted a

down and the people in London have no leeway to operate outside those criteria. I would have thought we were just the sort of people they wanted to do business with. House prices in some parts of the North, especially the east coast around Lincolnshire, are experiencing fast-moving house prices.

"But they said they do not want to branch out too quickly. They seem to have no flexibility at all."

Neil MacGregor, Sumitomo's assistant general manager in charge of mortgages, denied the bank was operating a red-lining policy that rules out the entire North of England. He said: "Red-lining is not about providing a service. We believe we have to be in a position to deal with customers. We want them to be able to come in and see us and not have to deal with us on the telephone."

Sumitomo has a branch office in Birmingham — yet it will not lead on property in Birmingham. It says it aims to lend in the South-West and Midlands soon.

"The only way to keep the interest rate down is by controlling costs," said Mr MacGregor. "If we expand before we have people capable of coping, things could get out of hand."

Mr MacGregor added: "I come from the North myself. I would not discriminate against the North of England."

The building societies used to be accused of red-lining whole chunks of Britain with the poorest housing. But in 1975, after local authorities were prevented from giving home loans, building societies had to set aside sums for



Disappointed: Mr and Mrs Murphy were refused their loan

people referred by local councils. These loans tended to go to people who would have been refused a loan in the past, and so the red-line policy came crumbling down.

Automatic policy against the North

The move to the rehabilitation of old houses and gentrification of run-down inner-city areas helped to end the policy. It is ironic that now some of the dearest property in the East End of London, for instance — would have been outside building society lending zones 15 years ago.

Adrian Coles, of the Building Societies Association, maintains that almost all the new lenders, by which he means banks rather than

building societies, run an automatic red-lining policy against the North of England, where prices are lower than in the South-East, by imposing high minimum loans of £30,000 or £40,000.

Sumitomo has a minimum loan of £30,000, National Australia £40,000, and Allied Arab Bank £50,000.

Chase Manhattan Bank, whose minimum is £25,000, will not lend in Scotland or Northern Ireland. "House prices and income levels in Northern Ireland would not meet our lending criteria," said a spokesman. But the bank intends moving into Scotland. It says it is not lending there at the moment because of the different legal system.

Vivien Goldsmith

Axe hangs over pension loans

Pension mortgages appear poised to go the way of all good tax breaks. The Inland Revenue is taking a tough line on the way they will be marketed under the new pensions regime.

Ian Thomson, joint marketing manager for Scottish Widows, says pension mortgages could become extinct.

The Revenue is unhappy about the advantages being used for purposes other than those for which they are meant — providing for retirement.

Pension mortgages have been most popular among the self-employed and those without access to a company pension scheme. The pension contracts, known as Section 226 contracts, used to provide pensions for these people, have allowed the life companies to link them to mortgages with impunity because regulations state that Section 226s must be used mainly to provide a pension.

The new personal pensions coming on to the market from July 1 must be used exclusively for retirement benefits.

A Revenue spokesman explains that this does not mean people cannot use the lump sum from their maturing pension contract to repay their mortgage. But the Revenue would look twice at a pension scheme openly promoting a facility for linking to a mortgage.

Although in theory it will be possible to use a personal pension to pay off a mortgage, life companies are already envisaging great difficulty in marketing them without falling foul of the Revenue.

Increasingly, lenders are willing to use the proceeds of company pension schemes for repayment of home loans and there is concern that the Revenue may get tough here too. This week the Confederation of British Industry warned employers to tread carefully in case the Revenue took a hard look at tax approval on schemes that promoted the use of the benefits to repay mortgages.

A pension mortgage works in a similar way to an endowment scheme. The borrower pays interest to the lender but pays premiums to a life company in return for a pension. The pension lump sum on retirement can be used to pay off the original mortgage and there is a pension as well.

The borrower receives tax relief on the mortgage interest and on the premiums paid to the life company. Money invested by the life company also enjoys the privilege of being able to roll up tax-free.

According to the Abbey National, a man aged 30 with a £30,000 mortgage spanning 30 years will pay £228.78 a month for a pension mortgage at a 25 per cent tax rate. If he pays 40 per cent tax he will pay £220.90. For this he can expect to build up benefits to pay off the mortgage and possibly get a cash surplus as well as an annual pension.

A couple with the same sized mortgage over 30 years will pay slightly more per month for a low-cost endowment or repayment mortgage than the man who plans to repay his loan from a pension plan.

Maria Scott

هكذا من الجاهل

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Free professional advice on:

MORTGAGES

We can get you 9.5% fast. Really fast. And 'low starts' begin 30% cheaper.

SCHOOL FEES

Savings of up to 70% could make the difference between private or state.

UNIT TRUSTS

Our income portfolio is up over 20% since 1.1.87. How about yours?

TAX FREE INCOME

If you're over 55 it's yours virtually for life.

PENSIONS

Unprecedented government incentives mean immediate review is essential.

RETIRED OR RETIRING

Could you do with 10% net income whilst investing capital?

INHERITANCE TAX

If you're over 70 you can still both give and receive simultaneously.

For exactly 30 years Towry Law have been giving professional advice to private individuals, in their personal or business capacity, on all aspects of financial planning. Towry Law are one of the U.K.'s leading independent consultants on personal finance. We have the experience to advise you impartially and without cost to yourself. You only have to talk to us.

Talk to Towry Law 30

for independent financial advice.

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General Accident	Scottish Life
Guardian Royal Ex.	Scottish Mutual
Henderson	Scottish Provident
Legal & General	Scottish Widows
MGM Assurance	Skandia Life
Norwich Union	Standard Life
Perpetual	Sun Life Assurance
Provident Mutual	Target Life
	Zurich Life

I am interested in receiving more information, without obligation, on:

Mortgages ☐
 School fees ☐
 Unit trusts ☐
 Tax free income ☐
 Pensions ☐
 Retired or Retiring ☐
 Inheritance Tax ☐
 I am an existing Towry Law client ☐ Yes/No

Name

Address

Postcode Tel

Towry Law & Co. Ltd.

FREEPOST, Windsor, Berks SL4 1BT.
 For written details PHONE FREE ON

0800 300 710

8.00am - 10.00pm
 (including weekends) or for information (office hours only)
 telephone 0753 864244 (Windsor) or 0232 237121 (Belfast) or
 031 226 2344 (Edinburgh) or 0532 445911 (Leeds).

NEW LAUNCH

Preference & Fixed Interest Unit Trust

The current volatility of world financial markets makes the inclusion of a high-yielding fixed interest investment a prudent addition to investment portfolios at the present time.

The Prolific Preference & Fixed Interest Unit Trust aims for a high and stable income and capital growth, through investment in preference shares, convertibles, gilts and other fixed interest securities. The estimated gross starting yield is 8.4%.

With the top rate of tax reduced to 40% in the Budget, the net return to such investors has risen to 5.0%. Basic rate taxpayers, of course, do even better with a net return of 6.3%.

The Trust also offers the potential for capital growth, particularly when interest rates fall and, given the Government's determination to contain inflationary pressures, the prospects for this happening are good.

Preference Shares

Preference shares are fixed interest securities which are issued by companies, usually with no fixed repayment date. They offer higher yields than gilts and greater potential for capital growth, particularly if the stock is repaid early or the company is taken over — there have been many examples of this in recent years and we expect the trend to continue.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prices, yield and distribution dates

Unit prices will be calculated daily and both the prices and yield quoted each day in the national press. Units are sold by the Managers at the offer price and bought back at the bid price. The bid price during the launch period will be 94% of the offer price. However, the Managers have the discretion to vary the difference between these two prices.

Income will be distributed quarterly on 7th March, 7th June, 7th September and 7th December.

The first distribution will be made on 7th September 1988.

Management charges
 An initial charge of 5% will be included in the offer price of units. The annual charge of 1% (plus VAT) will be deducted from the income of the Trust.

Please note that the Managers have discretion to increase the annual charge to a maximum of 2% on 3 months' notice to unit holders.

Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries. Rates are available on request.

To sell your units
 Units can be sold back to the Managers on any business day at the bid price ruling on receipt of your instruction. Payment will usually be made within 10 working days of receipt of your renounced certificates.

Trustee
 Citicorp Trustee Company Ltd.

Managers
 Prolific Unit Trust Managers Ltd., 222 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4JS. Tel: 01-247 6544. Registered in England No 959864. Registered office: as above. A subsidiary of Prolific Financial Management plc.

8.4%

Estimated gross starting yield.

- ☐ High and stable income
- ☐ Potential for capital growth
- ☐ Active management by proven experts
- ☐ Post-Budget opportunity — now more attractive to higher rate taxpayers

Other Fixed Interest Stocks

This section of the portfolio includes gilts and corporate fixed interest securities, such as debentures and loan stocks. In the case of gilts, both the income and repayment values are guaranteed by the Government. Debentures and loan stocks are issued by companies, usually yield more than gilts and, like preference shares, will often produce additional capital gains if the stock is repaid early or if the company is taken over.

Convertibles

Convertibles are also issued by companies and, like most fixed interest investments, provide a fixed level of income and repayment of capital on a specified date. However, they also offer the unique option of conversion into the issuing company's ordinary shares. Because of their high yield and guaranteed repayment date, convertibles tend to hold up much better than ordinary shares in a falling equity market, whereas they tend to follow closely when the market rises.

With inflation set to continue at a low level and excellent prospects for corporate profits, the outlook for equities is good; the

Sunday Telegraph
 Unit Trust Group
 of the Year.

Prolific
 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

222 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4JS.
 Unit Trusts • Pensions • Life Assurance

Trust's holdings of convertibles should benefit accordingly.

Anticipated initial composition of the Trust:
 65-75% Preference shares
 15-20% Other fixed interest stocks
 10-20% Convertibles

About Prolific

The Prolific investment team has gained a high reputation for successful investment management, both in the U.K. and in international markets. As a result, Prolific has developed into one of the country's fastest growing financial services groups.

Total Group funds under management exceed £1,200 million.

How to Invest

To purchase units, simply complete the form below and return it together with your cheque made payable to Prolific Unit Trust Managers Limited. Units will remain on offer at a fixed price of 50p until 22nd April, 1988, and a 1% discount in the form of additional units will also be given on all investments received by that date. Thereafter, units may be purchased at the offer price ruling on the day we receive your instructions.

Please remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up, particularly over the short term.

PROLIFIC PREFERENCE & FIXED INTEREST UNIT TRUST

Please send this subscription form, together with your cheque, either to your professional adviser, if you have one, or direct to Prolific Unit Trust Managers Ltd. (Administration Centre), 222 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4JS. Tel: (0539) 337 33.

1. We wish to invest £ (minimum £500) in the Prolific Preference & Fixed Interest Unit Trust at the fixed price of 50p per unit.

(A 1% discount will be given, in the form of additional units, on all investments received by 22nd April, 1988. Investments received after 22nd April, 1988 will be subject to the offer price ruling on the day of receipt.)

My/Our remittance, made payable to Prolific Unit Trust Managers Ltd is enclosed. I am/We are over 18 years of age.

Please indicate if you:

1. wish all net income to be reinvested automatically in additional units. ☐

2. wish income distributions to be paid directly into your bank account. ☐

3. would like to receive details on our monthly savings plan (minimum £30). ☐

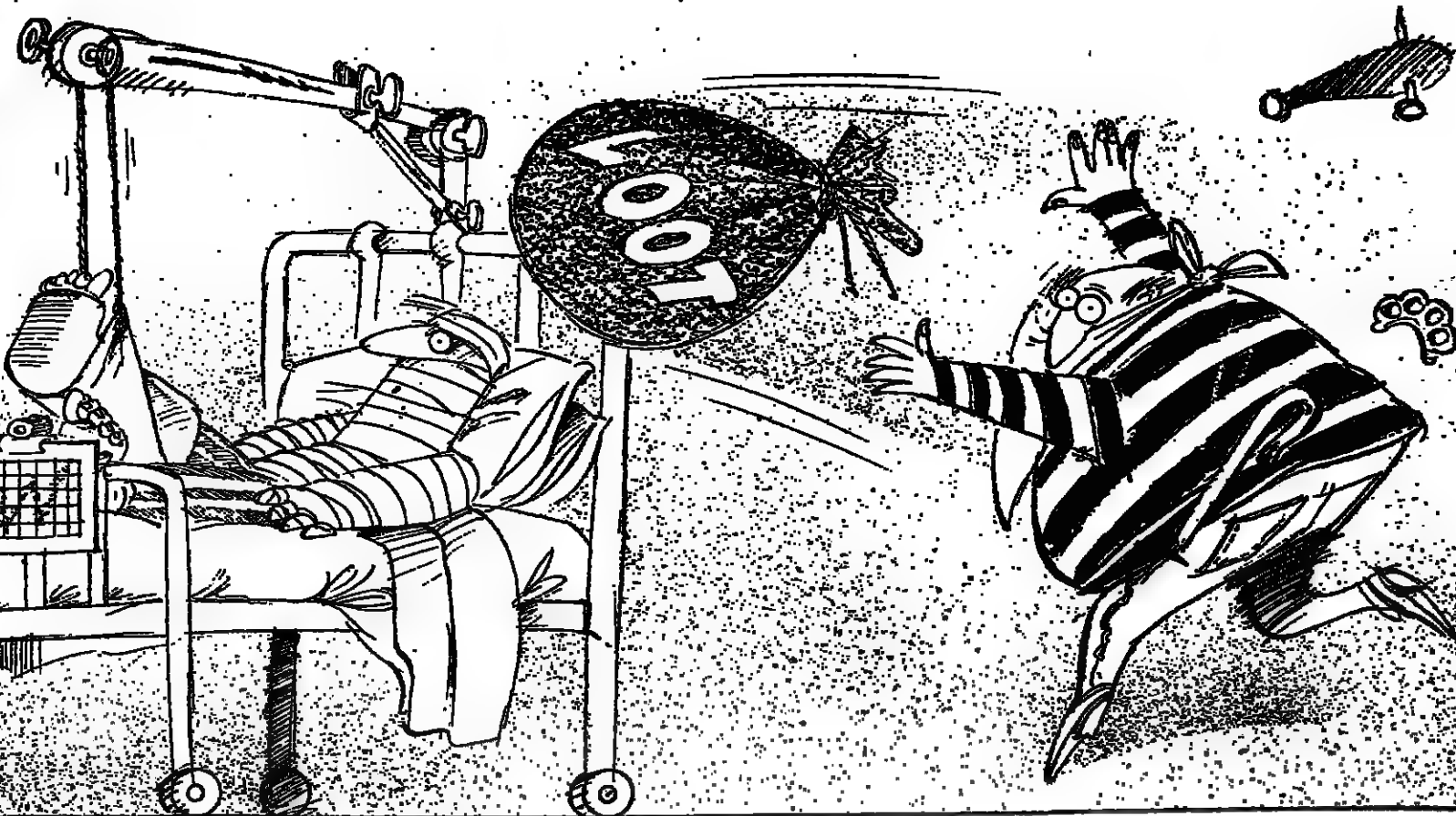
Surname (Mr/Ms/Miss)
 Forename(s) in full
 Address
 Postcode
 Signature

In the case of joint subscriptions, the full names and signatures of all investors should be provided on a separate piece of paper. This offer is not open to the residents of the Republic of Ireland.

NEW FUND
ACT BEFORE APRIL 22ND
FOR MAXIMUM BONUS

*Based on a £20,000 investment made before April 22nd, net of all charges and taxes payable within the Fund, and is free of liability to both individual Basic Rate and Capital Gains Taxes.

Our Regional Manager will only visit you if invited to do so.



9th April, 1988

هكذا من الأصيل

FAMILY MONEY

هكزامن النحل

The man to answer your queries



Bill Packer, left, tax partner at accountants Touche Ross, and author of several money guides, will be helping Family Money to answer readers' letters. Personal replies will be given only to published letters. Replies marked with the symbol at right are compiled by Touche Ross in association with *The Times*. No legal responsibility can be accepted for

any advice or statements in these columns. Independent professional advice should always be sought. Family Money welcomes readers' letters — the shorter the better — for publication but regrets that it cannot give individual replies or advice



LETTERS

You can leave it behind

I have recently been seeing some new "financial advisers". They suggest my wife and I change the ownership of our house (worth, say, £80,000) from joint tenancy to a tenancy-in-common basis and we should then alter our will so that on the first death, one half of the value of the house would be given in trust to our three children.

They say that this will not have any adverse effects and would still allow the survivor to sell and buy a different house at will. The change would, they say, reduce inheritance tax by £17,200.

I had always thought that there were no simple ways of reducing the liability for inheritance tax.

I am almost 72 and my wife 71, the children are 42 (twins) and 35. Our total assets are just short of £200,000, including the house.

K. DURROW, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne

Your inquiry is interesting because, in a sense, it goes to the heart of the working of English law. The immediate point is that if you and your wife hold as joint tenants, then on the death of the first, the deceased's share of the property passes to the other spouse automatically.

This transfer of value is free of tax (being a transfer between

spouses), but it does add to the value of the estate of the surviving spouse.

But if you and your wife hold your shares in the property as "tenants in common," each of you has the right to dispose of your share of the property to your children or to whoever you would wish to benefit. At that point, inheritance tax (if any) would be payable only on half the value of the property then passing, leaving the other half of the property in the hands of the surviving spouse for disposal on his/her death.

Both spouses are entitled to leave an amount of their estate free of inheritance tax regardless of who receives it. This amount varies with each Budget and may be reduced by gifts made in the seven years prior to death, but is now £110,000.

Where one spouse dies leaving his or her entire estate to the survivor, or dies in possession of a very small estate, this tax-free amount is wasted. The idea of adopting a "tenancy in common" is to give both spouses an estate which they can leave outside their marriage.

If it were possible to divide your combined estates equally between you and leave each share separately to your children, then on the figures you give no inheritance tax would be payable at any stage.

It could be wrong to leave so little wealth in the hands of the surviving spouse that he or she suffers financial hardship. Another difficulty is that dividing ownership between the survivor and the children, can create problems in family relationships.

PEP with pep

Please will you tell me if there is a PEP scheme in which I may invest in my own choice of companies? Those PEP schemes I have seen which allow one to choose limited choice to a list of companies, which all seem to be well-established.

I would like to invest in some less well known companies, but have yet to find a PEP scheme which will allow me to do so.

JANE REYNOLDS (MISS), Firs Road, Colchester CO5 8NL

Under PEP regulations, your choice of companies is limited to those listed in the UK including the USM.

The Natwest Shareplan, Coutts Investors' Choice and Midland Select all allow the investor to choose from a full range of investments permitted under these regulations — not just the blue-chip companies you mention. Chase de Vere (tel: 404 5766) produces a comprehensive PEP guide.



Shooting the rapids: It's exciting for the participants but it has to be safe

Making holidays safer

Parents have until next Friday to add their comments on safety precautions for children on adventure holidays and other play schemes to those of the experts, writes Vivien Goldsmith.

The Austrian accident in which four schoolboys died this week has highlighted the need for some checks on adventure schemes. At present there are insufficient checks and legal standards imposed on centres in this country.

More than 10 years ago the Consumers' Association called for a registration scheme. The Department of Health and Social Security has at last produced a consultation paper, *Day Care and Residential Holidays for Children Over Five*, which suggests either a registration scheme or the setting-up of voluntary codes of conduct.

The 80-member British Activity Holidays Association already has a code of conduct,

but no way of imposing this on members or checking that they are adhering to it.

The association's chief executive, Bill Higginson, who runs an activity holiday centre in Powys, Wales, says: "We are funded solely by subscriptions. Unfortunately at this stage it does not run to our forming an independent inspectorate, but this is still our aim. We are looking for sponsors."

The association invited local trading standards officers to inspect about a quarter of its members last summer. They had no power to enforce their suggestions. Their warnings concerned matching the photographs in brochures to the actual facilities used and the possibility of misleading "typical menus" and the like.

But what alarmed the Consumers' Association when it investigated adventure holidays two years ago was safety standards. It found lax practices, such as a swimming pool

with a 1m-high diving board above less than 2m of water and a parked Sinclair CS that rolled down a slope towards children until stopped by a *Whick?* inspector. The Consumers' Association is still finalizing its formal response to the consultation paper.

Adventure holidays are big business. PGL, which has been running for 30 years, expects to entertain 50,000 children this summer in 21 centres in the UK, plus others on the Continent. The holidays cost from £39 for a weekend or £159 for a week, but special-interest holidays can be a lot more expensive. A week-long motor-sport holiday costs £275.

Comments on proposed legislation should be sent to CS3C, DHSS, Room B1409, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6BY

MORTGAGES

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Personal Tax Ltd checks how much you really should pay, taking into account ALL expenses and allowances you are entitled to. PTL will also prepare your tax return and provide you with a report about how you may be able to reduce your liability.

The cost? Just £50 plus VAT — and NO extras.

Remember: if your tax bill is not checked you won't know whether you're paying too much tax.

AS FEATURED IN THE NATIONAL PRESS

For full details clip the coupon and send to: Personal Tax Ltd, "Codewords", Orpington Road, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 6BA. Phone 0689 70616

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MERCURY 90:10 TRUST

CAPITAL GROWTH WITH LIMITED RISK

- 90% investment in bonds and cash for capital protection
- Potential for significant capital growth through 10% investment in a global options portfolio
- Choice of four major currencies — \$, £, DM and Yen

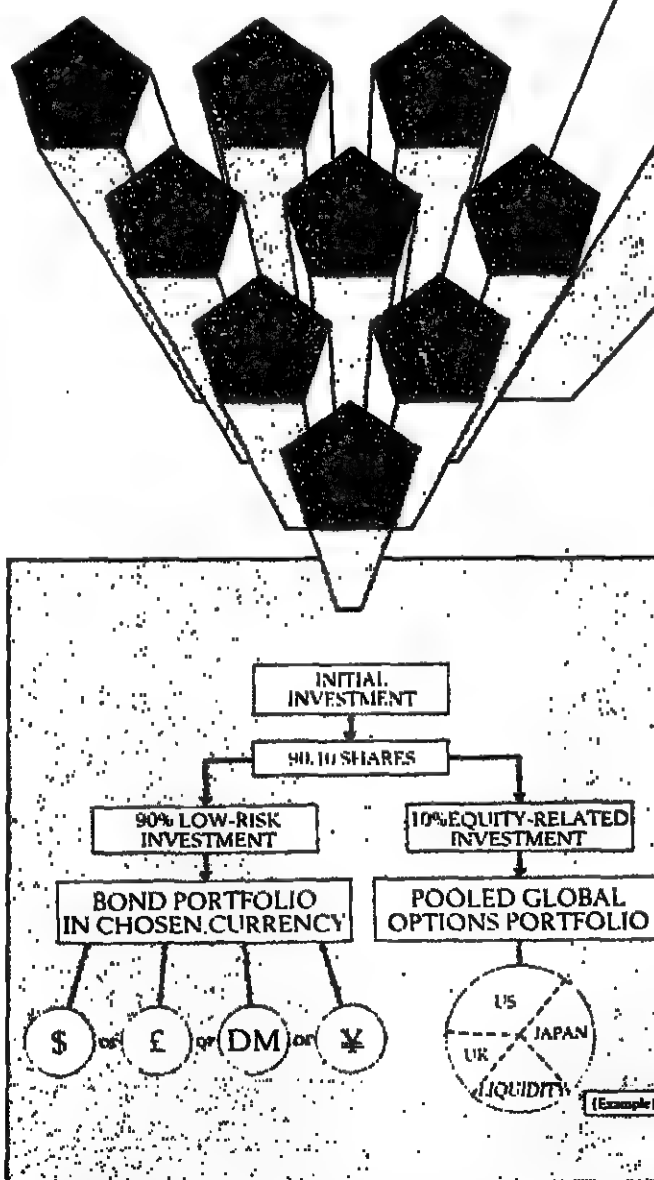
Equities have traditionally provided investors with one of the best sources of long-term capital growth. However, the events of October, 1987 highlighted the risks accompanying equity investment.

Mercury 90:10 Trust has been designed to meet the needs of those investors who wish to protect capital value without forgoing the possibility of real long-term capital growth.

The way in which these objectives are sought is described by the name, 90:10 —

- 90 per cent. of each subscription* is invested in low-risk investments, primarily short-dated bonds, other money market investments and cash.
- The remaining 10 per cent. of each subscription* is earmarked for investment in a portfolio of share and stockmarket index options to capture gains in major equity markets.

Mercury 90:10 Trust offers four distinct Funds, each with a bond portfolio having a different currency base. Investors can therefore choose between low-risk investments in Dollar, Sterling, Deutschmark or Yen Funds. Each Fund participates in a pooled global options portfolio.



To: Mercury Investment Services,
33 King William Street,
London EC4R 9AS.

Please send me the Prospectus for Mercury 90:10 Trust.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____
Initials _____
Company _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

The pooled options portfolio will provide exposure to major equity markets through global investment in options on shares and stockmarket indices. In rising markets investors benefit from the gearing effect provided by a successful options strategy. In falling markets exposure is limited to the amount invested in options.

Mercury 90:10 Trust therefore offers exposure to equities for a fraction of the cost of direct equity investment. Risk is reduced but opportunity for achieving capital growth remains.

Investors can adjust their relative exposure to bonds and equities by rebalancing their holdings to the 90:10 proportion.

Mercury 90:10 Trust is incorporated as a Luxembourg SICAV, managed by Warburg Investment Management Luxembourg, which in turn is advised by Warburg Asset Management in London.

It is not intended to apply for distributor status for UK tax purposes.

This advertisement is issued by Mercury Asset Management Group plc for information only and does not constitute an offer of securities, directly or indirectly, to any person. Full details of Mercury 90:10 Trust are contained in the Prospectus which can be obtained until 28th April, 1988 by returning the coupon. Investments will be accepted only on the basis of the Prospectus.

*After deducting the initial charge of up to 5 per cent.

New money for old bonds



Impressive-looking, but what is it worth today?

I have, inherited from my grandmother, a bond, entitled "Government of the Chinese Republic — 5% Gold Loan of 1913 Lung-Tung-U-Hai Railway — of £10,000,000 Sterling — Bond for £200 plus a complete set of half-yearly coupons from July 1 1940 to January 1 1961.

I remember reading somewhere that the Government has opened a register of old Chinese bonds, with a view to eventual partial redemption. Could you please let me know where and by what time the information has to be sent?

In view of the fact that the face value of the bond is only £20, is it worth my while to do anything in this matter? Or is the bond of any value as a collector's item? If the latter is the case, who could give a valuation of it or buy it?

ANNE M. ELKAN (MRS), Bishop's Road, Cambridge CB2 2NH

● Twenty million pounds has

been made available to compensate British Nationals holding bonds issued by the Chinese authorities before October 1949 (and also property or other assets expropriated between 1 October 1949 and January 1 1980).

Application forms with explanatory leaflets are available from the Foreign Compensation Commission, c/o Ernst & Whinney, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London WC2B 6TT; tel. 01-379 7088. Closing date for applications is June 30 1988 (August 31 1988 for property and other claims).

Unfortunately you are likely to receive only 6 per cent of the face value because the number of applications is likely to exceed the fund. The amount of money you would get from a collector depends on quality, age and denomination (those of greater denominations and age can reach 14 times face value), but in your particular case it is unlikely your bond would fetch more than the government offer.



The Norwich Union Life Insurance Society

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will be held at the Society's Offices, Surrey Street, Norwich on Tuesday 10 May 1988 at 12 noon for the transaction of the following business:-

To receive and consider the Reports of the Directors and Auditors and the Accounts for 1987.

To elect Directors in the place of those retiring.

To appoint Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Dated this 8th day of April 1988
By order of the Board

D P LISTER
Secretary

Surrey Street
Norwich

Anglia Building Society

per cent Bonds 1989

For The Seven Exchange Building Society are available at the Building Society's Offices, 22-24 City Road, London EC1A 1ET

W & Patten Ltd., 100 Fleet Street, London EC4A 3DF

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WINNER OF THE
MONEY OBSERVER
1987 PREMIER
UNIT TRUST GROUP
AWARD

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UNIT TRUSTS

With over one thousand unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each:

Recovery Fund for capital growth, **Dividend Fund** for an increasing income, and **SECOND General** for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £5,000 invested at the launch of M&G Recovery Fund on 23rd May 1969, with net income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	F.T. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
23 May '69	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
1970	5,880	4,285	5,398
1975	13,200	5,560	7,330
1980	51,280	8,644	10,770
1985	135,400	24,737	16,202
6 APR '88	254,000	32,210	19,144*

NOTES All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 6th April 1983 would have grown to £17,757 by 6th April 1988 with net income reinvested. *Estimated.

FURTHER INFORMATION On 6th April 1988 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were

	Income	Accumulation	Yield
Recovery Fund	508-6p	679-5p	3-42%
Dividend Fund	523-3p	1622-0p	5-19%
SECOND General	895-8p	1839-8p	3-51%

Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the 'offered' price (at which you buy units) and the 'bid' price (at which you sell) is normally 6%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price. An annual charge of 34% of each Fund's value plus VAT is deducted from gross income, but the managers intend to increase this charge to 1% for Recovery and SECOND with effect from 23rd May 1988. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic-rate tax on the following dates:

	Recovery	Dividend	SECOND
Distributions	20 Feb 20 Aug	15 Jan 15 July	15 Feb 15 Aug

Applications required by 17 Jun '88 20 May '88 3 Jun '88
for next distribution on 20 Aug '88 15 Jul '88 15 Aug '88

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. The Trustee for Dividend and Recovery is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for SECOND is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road,
Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Tel: (0245) 266266.
Customer Services: 01-626 4588.
Member of the Unit Trust Association.

Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income and a yield about 50% higher than the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. £5,000 invested in Income Units at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 6th May 1964, compared with a similar investment in a Building Society.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	INCOME		CAPITAL	
	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY
6 May '64	—	—	£5,000	£5,000
1965	£198	£189	5,100	5,000
1970	231	247	5,380	5,000
1975	414	361	8,150	5,000
1980	830	517	12,140	5,000
1985	1,139	435	32,580	5,000
1987	1,600	381*	49,540	5,000
6 APR '88	—	—	48,910	5,000

NOTES All income figures shown are net of basic-rate tax.

The Building Society income figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend capital figures are all realisation values. £5,000 invested in M&G Dividend Fund income units on 6th April 1983 would have produced an income of £435 in 1987 and the capital would have grown to £13,284 by 6th April 1988. *Estimated for the year.

Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G SECOND General Trust Fund aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 31-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £5,000 invested at the launch of M&G SECOND General on 5th June 1956, with net income reinvested.

Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	F.T. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
1960	9,760	10,040	5,835
1965	15,660	13,115	6,985
1970	23,240	15,270	8,712
1975	39,920	19,810	11,829
1980	97,700	30,800	17,380
1985	273,000	88,120	26,147
6 APR '88	424,800	114,740	30,895*

NOTES All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax.

The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G SECOND General figures are all realisation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G SECOND General on 6th April 1983 would have grown to £12,630 by 6th April 1988 with net income reinvested. *Estimated.

INVESTMENT FROM £1,000

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, M&G HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1FB.
Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable or Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and Income units will be issued for Dividend) at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

RECOVERY (MIN. £1,000)	£	-00
DIVIDEND (MIN. £1,000)	£	-00
SECOND (MIN. £1,000)	£	-00

02	FULL FORENAME(S) (Mr/Mrs/Miss)
SURNAME	
04	ADDRESS
POST CODE	

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

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THE M&G GROUP

M&G

Rely on proven Aintree form of West Tip

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

While a drop of rain would not come amiss in the few hours before the race, I still maintain that WEST TIP will give us another good run for our money in the Seagram Grand National at Aintree today, and he is my selection.

A faller when going conspicuously well in 1985, the winner the following year but only fourth 12 months ago, he now belongs to that elite band of horses whose deeds have often outweighed reason.

Cast your mind back over the post-war period and some of the great National horses. Royal Tan, Tudor Line, Irish Lizard, Tiberetta, Mr What, Wyndburgh, Merryman, Freddie, Red Allegator, Cay Trip, the mighty Run, L'Escarache, Eyecatcher, Rough And Tumble, Corbiere and Greasepaint all gave their supporters a tremendous run time and time again before West Tip burst upon the scene.

In slotting into that pattern, West Tip is confirming again that the Grand National is much more a test of strength and character than simply the art of handicapping.

Were it down to the latter, Rhyme 'N' Reason would probably be home and hosed in view of what he has achieved on park courses already this season.

But as Red Rum proved so eloquently with deeds not words achievements on park courses often bear little resemblance to action over the Aintree fences proper.

In preferring West Tip now, I'm sure that he will handle the situation wherever he is.

I am not nearly so sure about Rhyme 'N' Reason, not just because he has never been there before but because his

jumping and positioning around some of the park courses has led me to have grave doubts.

On a point of handicapping, and I stress again it is not so much a question of pounds carried, more often one of mental and physical adaptability, West Tip has a good chance of beating the favourite, Lean Ar Aghaidh (last year's third), now that he will be meeting him on a steeple better terms.

Last year, there was only four lengths between them at the finish. The Tsarevich, who finished in front of them both 12 months ago, obviously has a chance second to none on that running.

However, this season his stable has been in only moderate form due to a virus while his own form has been even more uninspiring.

Pressed to name three newcomers who will cut a dash in the race, won so aptly by Lottery 150 years ago, I would plump unhesitatingly for Hard Case, Midnight Madness and Sacred Path, but not necessarily in that order.

A bold jumping front-runner who won the Midlands Grand National over 4½ miles at Uttoxeter last May, Midnight Madness is capable of going really well especially as he enjoyed a mid-winter break.

At 40-1, he appeals to me as the best outsider in the field.

Hard Case, the leading Irish hope, is a fresh horse as indeed is Sacred Path. At this stage of the season that is an important factor.

In any event, they could all find Richard Dunwoody and West Tip going ominously well when the race finally comes to the boil on the second circuit.

Celtic Chief to atone

By the time that he weighs out to ride West Tip in the big race Dunwoody's own confidence should be brimming over because he has a fine chance of winning the previous race, the Sanderson Aintree Hurdle, on CELTIC CHIEF (Mandarin writes).

The distance will not pose a problem as he won over 2½ miles at Newbury earlier in the season.

Also, it was only his stumbles which finally embled him to clinch third place in the Champagne Hurdle at Cheltenham last month.

PEARLYMAN, the undisputed champion two-mile chaser at Cheltenham, still has something to prove to the Liverpool crowd having blundered

badly and unseated his rider four fences from home in the Captain Morgan Aintree Chase 12 months ago.

Following that second successive victory in the Queen Mother Champion Chase last month, he is certain to start favourite again and this time he should succeed.

Finally, anyone in dire need of getting out of trouble by backing the winner of the Champagne Hurdle, Celtic Chief, the last race of the meeting, could do a lot worse than follow Oliver Sherwood's lightly raced five-year-old DECIDED, who has come on in leaps and bounds since finishing second to Wilsford over a shorter trip at Lingfield five weeks ago. He appeals to me as a sporting nap.

3.20 SEAGRAM GRAND NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (Listed race: £68,740: 4m 4f) (40 runners)

301	300330	WEST TIP 22 (C.F.G.S.) (P Luff) M Oliver 11-11-7	R Dunwoody	50
302	21211F	RHYME 'N' REASON 23 (C.F.G.S.) (Miss J Reed) D Bworth 9-11-0	B Powell	50
303	11231-2	LEAN AR AGHAIDH 42 (F.G.S.) (Mrs W Tulloch) S Mellor 11-11-0	G Landan	56
304	413-023	HARD CASE 14 (G.S.) (Lady Thomson) J Dreaper (ire) 10-10-12	K Morgan	53
305	10/02-F0	THE TSAREVICH 42 (F.G.S.) (Maj I Straker) N Henderson 12-10-10	J White	54
306	013PF1	DURHAM EDITION 35 (F.S.) (R Odey) W A Stephenson 10-10-9	C Grant	52
307	101-41P	BORDER BURG 15 (C.F.F.G.S.) (J Delahouche) J Delahouche 11-10-7	S Sherwood	54
308	101030	LITTLE POLVEIR 25 (G.S.) (M Shone) J Edwards 11-10-6	T Morgan	51
309	000014	LUCISIS 25 (G.S.) (Mrs H McParland) F Flood (ire) 9-10-6	M J Quenly	50
310	14U030	MIDNIGHT MADNESS 32 (D.F.S.) (D Bloomfield) D Bloomfield 10-10-5	M Richards	55
311	000-320	ATTITUDE ADJUSTER 23 (G.S.) (Mrs J Maguire) M Morris (ire) 8-10-5	N Madden	51
312	313002	BUCKO 23 (G.S.) (J McManus) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-10-5	M Dwyer	52
313	124F00	STRANDS OF GOLD 23 (G.S.) (Independent Trainers) M Pipo 9-10-3	P Scudamore	57
314	0F0210	MONANORE 42 (G.S.) (Full Circle Thoroughbreds) D Pigg W Harney (ire) 11-10-3	T J Taffie	56
315	F20242	GEE-A 23 (C.F.G.S.) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 9-10-3	Geo Armytage	50
316	00-F210	YOU'RE WELCOME 25 (F.G.S.) (S Embriacos) J Gifford 12-10-1	Peter Hobbs	55
317	200041	REPINGTON 28 (F.G.S.) (J Gilman) N Crump 10-10-0	C Hawkins	53
318	0-P1020	TRACYS SPECIAL 21 (G.S.) (L Ames) A Tunnell 11-10-0	S C Knight	54
319	11/313-1	SACRED PATH 32 (G.S.) (Mrs C Heath) D Sherwood 8-10-0	C Cox	56
320	01R033	MEMBERSHIP 11 (F.G.S.) (P Dufosse) P Dufosse 10-10-0	N J Beggan	51

ATTITUDE ADJUSTER (8-10-5)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 35/1 5th to Captain Light (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 210,530, soft, 9 ran.

Mar 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

BIG BROWN BEAR (11-10-0)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 11/1 4th to Bajan Sunshine (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 21,172, good to soft.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

BORDER BURG (11-10-7)

Mar 25, Newbury: (12-3) pulled up behind Blue Dart (11-4) with Kumbi (11-1) pulled up (2m 2h) ch, 23,587, heavy, 8 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

BRASS CHANGE (10-10-0)

Mar 16, Newton Abbot: (11-0) best Royal Harbour 254 (10-1) (2m 2h) ch, 23,142, good to soft, 5 ran.

Dec 26, Huntingdon: (11-1) 3rd to On The Twist (10-9) (2m 2h) ch, 23,232, good to soft, 6 ran.

BRIGHT DREAM (12-10-0)

Mar 19, Lingfield: (11-0) 10/1 5th to Late Night Extra (11-4) with Tracys Special (11-0) 3rd to Bajan Sunshine (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 23,659, heavy, 8 ran.

Feb 18, Leicester: (11-1) 10/1 2nd to Backing (10-5) with Bleske (12-0) 8/1 2nd to Bajan Sunshine (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 23,659, heavy, 8 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

BUCKO (11-10-5)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 4th to Aquilifer (10-12) with Strands Of Gold (10-12) 5th to Bajan Sunshine (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,120, soft, 18 ran.

Dec 17, Leicester: see Bright Dream.

Dec 19, Ascot: (10-7) 8th to Carrow Glen (10-11) with West Tip (11-4) behind in 10th (2m 2h) ch, 24,984, good to soft, 12 ran.

COURSE HUNTER (10-10-0)

Mar 5, Newbury: (11-3) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Feb 12, Newbury: (11-0) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

DURHAM EDITION (10-10-9)

Mar 5, Market Rasen: (11-0) 2nd to Preben Fur (8-7) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Dec 26, Wetherby: (9-7) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

LITTLE POLVEIR (11-10-6)

Mar 15, Cheltenham: see Lucisis.

Dec 26, Wetherby: (9-7) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

LUCISIS (9-10-6)

Mar 15, Cheltenham: (12-0) 11/1 4th to Golden Mineral (11-1) with Little Polveir (11-1) 3rd to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Feb 20, Navan: (12-0) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

MARCOLO (11-10-0)

Mar 30, Huntingdon: (11-0) 7th to Stony Creek (10-8) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

MEMBERSHIP (10-10-0)

Mar 29, Sandown: (10-12) 10/1 5th to Castle Warden (11-4) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS (10-10-5)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: see The Tsarevich.

Dec 26, Wetherby: see Bright Dream.

MONANORE (11-10-3)

Feb 27, Punchestown: (11-3) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

NORTHERN BAY (12-10-0)

Mar 18, Wetherby: (11-3) 5/1 2nd to Good Trade (10-9) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

OYDE HILLS (9-10-0)

Mar 11, Carlisle: see Tullamarine.

Jan 16, Newcastle: (11-3) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

POLLY'S PAL (10-10-0)

Mar 5, Sandown: see Sir Jock.

Feb 23, Sandown: (11-1) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

PREBEN FUR (11-10-0)

Apr 2, Southwell: (10-1) 25/1 5th to Koursa (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Mar 5, Market Rasen: see Durham Edition.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

REPINGTON (10-10-0)

Mar 12, Doncaster: (11-0) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Jan 29, Doncaster: (11-0) 22/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

RHYME 'N' REASON (9-11-0)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: see West Tip.

Feb 27, Kempton: (10-1) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

SACRED PATH (8-10-0)

Mar 8, Wetherby: (11-3) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Mar 12, Doncaster: (11-0) 20/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Dec 26, Wetherby: (9-7) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

SEEANDEM (8-10-0)

Mar 25, Newbury: (11-0) 4/1 4th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Jan 14, Gowran Park: see Seaside.

THE TSAREVICH (12-10-0)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 22/1 6th to Charley Party (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Mar 5, Sandown: (10-1) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

SMITH'S MAN (10-10-0)

Mar 22, Nottingham: (10-0) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

STRANDS OF GOLD (9-10-3)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: see Lucisis.

Dec 26, Wetherby: see Bright Dream.

THE TSAREVICH (12-10-0)

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 22/1 6th to Charley Party (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Mar 5, Sandown: (10-1) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

TULLAMARINE (11-10-0)

Mar 11, Carlisle: (11-7) 10/1 5th to Pegasus Bay (11-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Mar 17, Cheltenham: (12-0) 22/1 6th to Charley Party (12-0) (2m 2h) ch, 22,507, good to soft, 3 ran.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

YOU'RE WELCOME (12-10-1)

Mar 15, Cheltenham: see Lucisis.

Apr 4, 1987, Liverpool: see The Tsarevich.

Selections: SACRED PATH. Each-way: Durham Edition.

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BATH	143	HEXHAM	107	SEDFIELD	107
BEVERLEY	147	HUNTINGDON	133	SOUTHWELL	127
BRIGHTON	147	KELSO	105	STRATFORD ON AVON	135
CARLISLE	159	KEMPTON PARK	155	TAUNTON	141
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The quiet man turns to Tracys Special

By Alan Lee

The chances are that you may remember the name of last year's Grand National winner. Unless, however, you are among those whose days are devoted to form books, the name of the jockey might easily have slipped your mind.

Steve Knight's life did change when he won the world's greatest horse race aboard Maori Venture, but for more than a week, then the back-slappers moved on, the telephone was silenced, the spotlight died.

Knight went back to being a workaday jockey, an anonymous face you would probably glance at in a pub or supermarket, with no idea of recognition. A quiet life, with grey hair and a boyish face, Knight is not exactly the marketing man's dream in the way that Richard Dunwoody had been before him.

Being short on arrogance, Knight was neither surprised

nor offended. He has never believed that racing owed him any favours; his outlook is a refreshingly humble gratitude that he can make a living in Utopia. So when the idea that the National is a passport to the high life was exposed as a myth, Knight simply banked his memories and got on with the largely unglamorous existence he has lived for half of his 33 years.

This season, he has ridden a mere 12 winners, which is 78 behind the champion, Peter Scudamore. "Disappointing," he admits. Victory in the great race has also failed to bring him any extra outside rides. He says: "I hoped it might but I have learned never to expect anything."

"This game is not at all how it used to be when I was younger. It is so competitive, you see. Each year of my substance has two jockeys attacked. There is very little left for the freelance."

"If I had been a different type, a go-getter, I might have made more for myself out of winning the National. But I am a quiet sort and I didn't go looking for commercial deals, sponsored cars and endorsements. All I know is that they didn't come to me."

There is no sense of grievance. The triumph itself was quite enough for this Welshly young man. He still discusses his time with fresh animation each time. "Andy Turner said I should ride his other runner, Tracys Special," he recalls. "But I told him that if Maori Venture jumped round he was a certainty."

The day following the race, at Knight's Oxfordshire stables, Knight, ordered with his daughters, Dennis and Anna, as if in a dream. He reacted to the endless requests for interviews with polite disbelief and then nodded and grinned gratefully when the horse's legendary owner, Jim Joel, determinedly



Steve Knight: modest hero of last year's National

last. I am not sure what I will do. I don't want to train because I have seen too many good jockeys struggle at it. But I do badly want to stay in racing. It is all I've ever done and I would never get it out of my system."

Hammond continues fine run with Royal Illusion

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Michael Hammond's remarkable run of success continued at Aintree yesterday when the 25-year-old jockey produced Royal Illusion with a devastating burst of speed to beat Lord Eros by five lengths in the afternoon feature, the Glenlivet Anniversary Hurdle.

In the past six days, Hammond has now had nine winners from 14 now including trebles at Sedgfield and Kelso. With 61 winners to his credit, he lies in second place behind Peter Scudamore in the jockeys' table. Hammond has no mount in this afternoon's great race and will have to forfeit the ride on Hardy Lad in the Scottish National as he will be serving a two-day suspension for his misuse of the whip here on Thursday.

Arguably, this was the best performance recorded by the four-year-old this season apart from that of Kribensis in the Triumph Hurdle.

But the astute George Moore, now with 43 winners in his best ever season, is not carried away by having won his first race at Aintree from only three runners.

"He is not championship class," he said. "In fact, I rate Aintree Express as a better prospect. Royal Illusion will now go to Epsom for the City and

Suburban Handicap in which he has 7st 8lb. Stephen Woods will ride."

The story of yesterday's winner is certainly a rags-to-riches tale. "He started off by winning a seller on the Flat at Thirsk last season," said the trainer.

"He was very weak and unfurnished then but he has thickened out now."

Phil Tuck, injured in a fall from Jinty Jack on Thursday, had the additional mortification of missing two winning mounts. Chris Grant was the substitute on Jim Thorpe, who inflicted a surprise defeat on Danish Flight, the even money favourite, in the Pernier Joust Novices' Chase.

And Richard Dunwoody took over from Tuck when completing a training double for Gordon Richards when winning the Heidieck Dry Monopole Chase on Rinnus.

Last time out, Jim Thorpe had fallen at Cheltenham when lying in second place behind Danish Flight in the Arkle Challenge Trophy. I don't know whether we were unlucky as you can't tell from the floor," Tuck said. "But I will tell you one thing. Jim Thorpe can't live with Randolph Place on the gallop."

Randolph Place, a faller in the

Arkle, will be out to redeem his reputation in valuable novices' chase at the Scottish National meeting at Ayr.

The Seagram Foxhunters Chase, run over the National fences, may seldom have produced such a surprise result as when Newham, the 50-1 winner, just got the better of a 66-1 chance, Shylcock Retreat in a driving finish.

But the historic unsaddling enclosure has never seen a more resounding welcome than that awarded to her winner by Annie Johnson, the wife of the winning owner.

Five years ago, Mrs Johnson had a kidney transplant operation. There she was yesterday in a move outfit giving a piercing wolf whistle of delight and giving vent to hunting hollars of joy. "That's fantastic," she said.

"My husband and I took it in turns to drive the horse up last night. We told Simon Andrews to boot him into The Chair fence, and he didn't half stand back."

Lean Air Agahaid must be a firm choice to give Stan Mellor and Guy Landau a famous first victory in the world's most demanding steeplechase. My fancies are: 1. Lean Air Agahaid (nap); 2. West Tip; 3. Backer; 4. Durham Edition.

Figuring out a persuasive case for Border Burg

By Jack Waterman

The Seagram Grand National is a puzzle which will engage millions this afternoon in the great British gamble of the year. Statistics can help to solve some of the problems and provide some pointers because the National does follow certain patterns, however much luck plays its part. The figures are based on the results of the past 10 runnings, and the first statistic to note is that in very recent years the number of finishers has shown a marked upward trend, and there have been fewer fallers.

Handicap
The handicap range is of the utmost importance. Well over half the field is set to carry the maximum possible weight of 10 stone. But all except one, Repington, should, according to the handicapper, carry less.

The ten stone brigade have provided just one winner and six minor places in the first four in the past decade. A more successful bracket is from 10st 7lb to 11st 7lb. This has provided seven winners and a further 11 places.

Age
A well-worn National statistic is that nine-year-olds are most successful; it is confirmed over the period under review with three winners and 12 other places. But this year there are fewer nine-year-olds than usual taking part.

Aintree experience
A remarkable number of today's field have successful tackled the Aintree fences, either in previous Nationals or other races.

The five immediately behind Maori Venture all have a further attempt today, including Lean Air Agahaid, West Tip 1986 winner and 1987 fourth, and the Tsarevich, who has twice before finished the course.

Try, try again, in fact has paid off in the past, most notably this century in the case of Team Spirit who had fallen on two occasions before succeeding at the fifth attempt in 1964. Against this, seven-year-olds were repeatedly placed but never won. No horse since Rod Run has won the race more than once.

Form
With the exception of Ben Nevis in the freak year 1980 when the going was exceptionally heavy

and only four finished, all the winners in the period had at least one win in their four races immediately prior to the National. Nine, including Ben Nevis but excluding Maori Venture, did not fall in these preliminaries. Horses to consider in this category include Border Burg, Lucialis, Monanore and Sacred Path.

Going
The going looks likely to be good or good to soft. If this is the case, a close eye should be kept to exclude horses who like the mud.

Irish runners
There have been only nine Irish winners this century, six of them since the war. L'Escargot, in 1975, was the last.

Time
Red Rum holds the course record and it is estimated that the 10 winners under consideration completed at an average of 29.8 miles per hour; here's hoping that my three against the field will be able to accomplish at least that. From the facts and figures I nominate in order: Border Burg, despite a disappointing run last time, Lean Air Agahaid and Bucko.

Starting price
The National is not a race where, generally speaking, favourites win. But their place record is good. There has been one winner, in the relevant period. Grattar at 7-1. Five others (including a four-favourite) were placed in the first four at prices ranging from 5-1 to 9-1.

LIVERPOOL

Selections
By Mandarin
2.00 Pearlyman.
2.35 Celtic Chief.
3.20 West Tip.

By Michael Seely
2.00 Pearlyman. 2.35 Celtic Chief. 3.20 LEAN AIR AGAHAI (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top leaning: 5.10 SIR BLAKE.

Going: good to soft
2.0 CAPTAIN MORGAN ANTRÉE CHASE (Limited handicap; feature race; £17,510; 2m; Midway course) (15 runners)

101 21221 PEARLYMAN (25.0) (M) P. Shaw J. Edwards 5-12-0 T Morgan 50
102 12219 BOSSLINE 14 (24.0) (F) K. Kelly P. Flood 12-10-13 B Barry 50
103 12219 BOSSLINE 14 (24.0) (F) K. Kelly P. Flood 12-10-13 B Barry 50
104 12219 BOSSLINE 14 (24.0) (F) K. Kelly P. Flood 12-10-13 B Barry 50
105 12219 BOSSLINE 14 (24.0) (F) K. Kelly P. Flood 12-10-13 B Barry 50
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